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Turkeys For Folks At Home

London, Dec. 23.
Nearly 300 dockers started at 8 a.m. today on a rush job of unloading the Highland Monarch, which arrived on Friday with 250,000 turkeys from South America.

Fifty vehicles stood by to rush the poultry from the docks. Late this afternoon the Ministry of Food said: "Of 1,855 tons of turkey and poultry on the Highland Monarch 1,456 have been shifted to various centres in the country."

Apples, oranges, butter, eggs, meat and poultry were today being unloaded along Liverpool's nine miles of docks in an all-out last minute effort to serve the Christmas market.

More than 113,000 cases of Jaffa oranges are expected at Liverpool on Christmas Eve in two vessels delayed by fog and rough weather. One bumper cargo, which will arrive just too late for Christmas distribution, is on a liner due to dock from Canada at Liverpool tomorrow.

She is bringing 35,650 boxes of pears, 11,310 packages of grapes, 2,000 boxes of tangerines, 920 barrels of apples and 1,400 tons of bacon and ham.—Reuter.

Too Easy With Russia

Washington, Dec. 24.
Senator Stewart, Democrat, Tennessee, declaring "we have been entirely too easy with Russia," urges a thorough investigation into the "verbal ultimatum" which forced an unarmed U.S. Navy ship to leave Dairen.

Stewart referred to the edict which was on a routine courier mission hurrying from the Manchurian port after receiving a warning from Russian military officers stating "unless you leave within 20 minutes we will not be responsible for the consequences." Commenting on a Dairen story by Scripps Howard reporter William H. Newton, who told of the incident for the combined world press, Stewart told a reporter: "This is a matter which ought to be gone into thoroughly. I will be much interested to see what the State Department and the Navy have to say."

"The Russians ought not to have been allowed to enter Manchuria in the first place," Stewart said. "They have done nothing but pilfer the whole area."—Associated Press.

Catch In Treaty
Dairen, Dec. 20 (Delayed). Soviet Russia intends to retain full control of the city of Dairen—the gateway of Manchuria—and will keep military forces there until after the peace treaty is signed with Japan.

"This will be done under the technical definition of a clause in the Sino-Soviet pact concerning Dairen which says: 'In peacetime Dairen is not included in the sphere of efficacy of naval base regulations determined by the agreement.' on Port Arthur on August 14, 1945 and shall be subject to military supervision or control. In this case only in case of war against Japan."

The phrase: "In peacetime" is the catch. Technically China and Russia are still at war with Japan until the peace treaty is signed.—Reuter.

CONTROL OF INDUSTRY

London, Dec. 23.
The control of industry in Hamburg will be transferred from the military Government to the local economic office on January 1, Hamburg radio, quoting a British military statement, said tonight.

The control of economic policy will remain vested in the British and American economic control authorities.—Reuter.

REINFORCEMENTS SENT TO SAIGON: MORE STAND BY

Japanese Agents Sent Home

Buenos Aires, Dec. 24.
Foreign Minister Juan Atilio Bramuglia announced today that 19 Japanese agents have been repatriated to Japan.

He also released a list of 52 German agents whom the Peron regime ordered to be deported, although only 13 of them so far have been detained and deported.

Bramuglia's statement failed to name the Japanese agents or give additional information on the deportation.

Of the 13 Nazi agents who were shipped to Hamburg two days ago, Bramuglia listed three Spaniards, one Greek, one Uruguayan, eight Germans and Austrians.

The announcement of the expulsion of 13 and the deportation decrees still in effect against 39 others were first concrete steps taken by the Peron regime to meet United States demands for the deportation of German agents and the liquidation of German firms in Argentina.—United Press.

ADVENTURER GUILTY OF MURDER

Paris, Dec. 23.
Alain de Bernardi de Sigoyer was found guilty here today of murdering his 25-year-old wife two years ago and was sentenced to death. Irene Lebeau, said to be the accused's mistress, charged with complicity in the crime, was found not guilty and exonerated.

"Miracle Man" To Marry

Glasgow, Dec. 24.
The engagement of the "miracle man" was announced here today. He is Dennis Williams, D.S.C., who is to wed Miss Anne Martin, of Troon. Williams earned his nickname during the war. After surviving injuries received when his ship, on which he was serving as Lieutenant, was blown up in October 1944, he was hospitalized. He had his spine broken in five places.

He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in 1943 for "resolution, enterprise and fine leadership."—Reuter.

Hope They Make It!

London, Dec. 24.
The Pan-American Airways Clipper bound for New York from London with G.I. brides and their children on board, which had to turn back from Ireland last night on account of bad weather, is due to leave London for the Atlantic crossing this morning.

With 23 wives and one bride-to-be, were 25 children, some of whom had never seen their fathers, and the plane was making a last-minute effort to get them to America in time for Christmas.

The mothers and children were taken to various homes for the night.—Reuter.

Japanese Among Those Killed

Paris, Dec. 23.
Reinforcements for the French Army in Indo-China are on their way to Saigon and other troops are standing by ready to leave, well-informed quarters in Paris declared tonight.

The French Prime Minister, M. Leon Blum, told the National Assembly tonight that the latest news of fighting in Indo-China between the French Army and troops of the Viet Nam Republic was "not reassuring," but he added that the situation was not alarming.

M. Blum told the Assembly that it would be at least some weeks before order and calm were restored in Indo-China. He met with general approval of the Assembly when he said that the Government insisted that order must be restored before negotiations with the Viet Nam Republic could be resumed but some protests came from Conservative benches.

When he said that a "free Viet Nam Republic" remained the objective of the French Government's policy.

The Right Wing Deputy, M. Andre Mutter, said he had just had news that his son was wounded and taken prisoner by Viet Nam troops and then strangled between two soldiers and sawn in half.

Viet Nam Government representatives in France today accused "certain French circles" of provoking war.

Heavy fighting continued in Hanoi today and French aircraft in Spitfire machines bombed the barracks of an Indo-Chinese stronghold.

French troops made steady progress against Viet Nam forces.

ARMY DRIVERS' GROUSE

Herford, Germany, Dec. 23.
Two hundred British car drivers serving at the Headquarters of the Intelligence and Legal Divisions of the Control Commission in the British zone of Germany decided at a stormy meeting held here tonight to stop work until further notice unless they were assured by mid-day tomorrow of adequate heating facilities for their billets and mess.

The British zone of Germany tonight is shivering under 20 degrees of frost. The drivers declared that no heating had been provided for several days and until tonight when they received enough for 14 hours.—Reuter.

Highway Battle

Paris, Dec. 24.
French armoured units and infantry forces are battling for possession of Rue Coton, main thoroughfare of the Indo-Chinese district to the north of the Tonkin capital.

Other French troops were reported "advancing" down the Boulevard Gambetta.

Battles were reported in progress around the City Hall and main Post Office, where the French launched what they described as "disengaging operations."—Associated Press.

Surrender

Bangkok, Dec. 24.
The Viet Nam Radio announced today that the French troops which garrisoned Nam Dinh and Bac Ninh, numbering 2,000, have surrendered unconditionally without the consent of Acting French Commissioner, Gen. Jacques Morier.

The broadcast also said Viet Nam artillery shot down French Spitfires in the Hanoi area.

According to Saigon Radio, new contingents from Africa will soon arrive to reinforce the French strength.—United Press.

Executed Without Trial

Tokyo, Dec. 24.
While the world prepared for a peaceful Christmas, the International Tribunal for the Far East heard detailed firsthand information on the mistreatment of helpless, defenceless Allied prisoners and internees in Japanese hands during the war.

Lt-Col. J. S. Damste, associate Dutch prosecutor, introduced a synopsis of Japanese policy towards POW, women and children in Java.

Cases of rape and forced prostitution among Allied women and girls in Central Java were related to the Tribunal. Boys aged thirteen were considered adults and sent to men's internment camps. Women and children were forced to work long hours under the tropical sun. Recaptured escapees' evidence showed the men were generally executed without trial, contrary to the Geneva convention.

Col. Damste introduced evidence to show that the Japanese planned to kill prisoners of war and civilians in the event of the approach of Allied forces.

It showed that the Japanese on numerous occasions murdered troops who did not immediately surrender at the time of capture but did so after a long interval and "therefore, they were not emotional excesses of revenge perpetrated by common soldiers whose mental balance had been swept away, but deliberate, pre-

meditated acts committed obviously in accordance with special orders."—United Press.

Christmas Returns To Europe

Chinese lanterns in the streets of Swedish towns, Christmas fairs in Berlin, a giant 60-foot illuminated Christmas tree in front of Prague's burnt-out Town Hall, this week tell the story of a Europe which, after nearly 20 months of peace, is now returning to pre-war days of laughing and the gaiety of brightly lit shops and Christmas dances.

The following Reuters cables from the world's centres tell the story—mainly a children's story—of the plans for the second Christmas of peace.

Sweden: Since early in December, the town councils have been putting up Christmas trees, hung with electric lights, in the main public squares and festooning the shopping centres with Chinese lanterns.

Germany: Christmas fairs and markets are back in Berlin's bomb-scarred streets. Hundreds of British Army units are voluntarily surrendering sweets, cakes and other food, to make the Christmas brighter for the children of the British zone. A special nine-ounce sweet ration is being issued to each child.

France: Although a small Christmas tree costs at least 100 francs (four shillings and twopenny) almost every home where there are children will have its tree this year.

Czechoslovakia: The people of Czechoslovakia are enjoying an almost normal Christmas this year. Shop windows are full of toys and of all shapes and sizes.

Belgium: Whole floors of the big stores are filled with toys at prices well within the pockets of the average buyer and the children will doubtless have the best Christmas presents since before the war.

Portugal: The toy fair set up each year in one of Lisbon's main squares is in full swing again with its wooden horses, crude painted dolls and marionettes.

Switzerland: In one Swiss town, Bellinzona, Father Christmas went decidedly modern this year when—due to the great delight of local school-children he arrived by airplane.—Reuter.

In China
Nanking, Dec. 24.
Although there is no trace of an armistice on the North China battlefields, there will be plum puddings, parties and dances and the traditional capers with crackers in Nanking this Christmas.

It will be a strangely familiar Christmas for China—the noise of war and the pain of peace bells will be present, and it will be a historic Christmas—7,700 delegates representing almost every political faction, except the Communists, will head for some after the 40-day delivery of the first permanent constitution to China.—Reuter.

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'Quake Casualties Near 1,100 Mark

Tokyo, Dec. 24.
With Allied casualties definitely out of the picture, Japanese earthquake casualties continued to mount, but appeared to be stabilizing in the neighbourhood of the officially checked 1,100 or so as relief parties closed in on the devastated areas.

Japanese Home Office reports tabulated from all areas gave 1,088 killed, 1,142 injured and 165 still missing, with considerably over 100,000 homeless, not counting the victims of 28,356 homes which were flooded in various degrees as a result of the tidal waves.

The Japanese news agency, Kyodo, with bureaus giving hourly reports from 24 prefectures affected by the quake, gave the number of fatal cases as 1,125, plus 1,071 injured and 104 persons missing. Kyodo listed well over 200,000 homeless.

One temporarily missing American was accounted for when Richard Day, Red Cross worker manning a rescue ship with Japanese personnel, reported that his ship put into Kushimoto, southern tip of Wakayama peninsula, which was hit by the tidal wave.

Japanese government figures, meanwhile, began to assemble into growing property losses. Home Ministry reports said a total of 2,602 ships were land-wrecked or carried away by tidal inundation, 48 bridges gone, 155 highways seriously damaged, 7,350 homes demolished, beyond repair and 2,741 homes "washed away and lost" in tidal waves, considerably over 10,000 buildings, mostly homes—seriously damaged and 62 factories demolished.

The casualties included 1,125 dead, 104 missing and 1,471 injured.

Colonel Rex Beasley, chief of the military government section of the United States 8th Army, said casualties—high as they were—still were lower than originally feared.

The Japanese Red Cross had 30 teams in the field and was sponsoring collection of funds.—Associated Press.

Yokohama Black Mart

Yokohama, Dec. 24.
"Quick and daring action" by two 19-year-old American soldiers broke up a Black Market ring suspected of having international ramifications, Eighth Army headquarters announced today.

The soldiers, Pfc. Clarence O. Hill and Pfc. Edward Terrell, were approached by a Japanese gang who told them they "could make big money if they would work with the gang."

The soldiers immediately reported the offer to Lieutenant Colonel P. D. Harter, Security Officer, who told them to maintain their contact with the gang.

The soldiers were told by the gang's contact man to obtain a truck, a jeep, a pistol, an Army uniform and a Japanese passport. The contact man said he would wear Army uniform and act as interpreter dealing with black market outfits.

The Security Officer contacted the G.I.D. and the truck, which was used on the raid, were so marked as to be easily traced. Lieutenant Upham Sams of the Security Unit was ordered to drive the truck disguised as the enlisted man.

During the actual raid, however, the G.I.D. lost contact with the raiding party and Private Hill and Lieutenant Sams took matters into their hands, whipped out revolvers, while the Japanese were loading goods on the trucks and turned them over to the Security Officer.

A large quantity of silk, watches, cigarettes and oil were seized in the warehouse.—United Press.

Holiday Train Crash

Waubay, S.D., Dec. 24.
A fast freight train today crashed head-on into a holiday-packed day coach in the Milwaukee railroad and between 25 to 30 persons were injured but no one was killed.

Officials said the railroad's crack passenger train, "Olympian," was waiting for the freight train about one mile east of the town. The freight train was ordered to stop to allow the "Olympian" to proceed but ran by the switch and crashed head-on into the passenger train.

The locomotive, mail and express cars of the 14-car "Olympian" were derailed and the engine and 10 cars of the 66-car freight wrecked.—United Press.

THE WEATHER

The anticyclone over N. China has weakened and another has developed over the Sea of Japan. A trough of low pressure extends northward over the Yellow Sea. Pressure has fallen considerably over SW China and continues low over the equatorial region.

Today's forecast: Cloudy with drizzle at first; moderate easterly winds.

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CROWDS FILL COURT AS NOMA TRIAL BEGINS "I AM CONVINCED I AM NOT GUILTY"

Never has any local war crime trial attracted so much public interest as that of Colonel Noma Kennosuke, which commenced yesterday before No. 7 War Crimes Court at East Point Godowns.

From 8.30 a.m. onwards Chinese spectators poured into the Court building and by 10 a.m. the Courtroom and adjacent corridors were full to capacity, with the result that the overflow streamed into No. 5 War Crimes Court, where the trial of Colonel Tokunaga and others was proceeding. Spectators were standing six deep in No. 7 War Crimes Court, while many others were standing on the backs of chairs or clinging to the window beams.

Noma, the centre of attraction, entered the Court on crutches, looking somewhat pale. As he sat down in the dock, he breathed deeply several times and then, with tightly compressed lips, turned slowly round and gazed at the huge gathering.

During the usual five minute recess, spectators swarmed round the dock to get a better view of Noma. There were murmurs of "strike him" from the crowd, but the Court orderlies prevented any untoward occurrence.

Chinese press photographers were early on the scene and in the course of the proceedings, took a number of flash-light photographs.

A large sized Union Jack was affixed to the wall immediately behind the dock occupied by the President and Members of the Court.

Noma Sick

Before the proceedings commenced, Major MacGregor brought to the notice of the Court that Noma was reported to have become sick on the way from Stanley. When questioned by the Court, Noma said that he had vomited in the truck. As there was a medical certificate certifying Noma's fitness to stand trial, the President decided that the case should proceed.

The case is being heard before Lieut. Col. C. F. Ball (President), Major M. L. Ormsby and Captain R. B. R. Gorely, Members.

Major D. G. MacGregor is the Prosecuting Officer, while Mr. Yoshizumi Tatsuchiro, as-

sisted by Captain Whitehorn, is appearing for the defence.

Noma is charged with having committed a war crime, in that he, at Hong Kong between Dec. 25, 1941, and Jan. 13, 1945, as head of the Kempetai and as such responsible for public order, the control of the Kempetai personnel and for the management of places of detention at Hong Kong, was in violation of the laws and usages of war, concerned in the ill-treatment of civilian residents, as a result of which numbers of them died or were unlawfully killed by members of the Japanese Forces, and many others underwent physical sufferings.

When asked to plead to the charge, which had been read out to him, Noma said: "I am convinced I am not guilty."

Mr. Yoshizumi then made application that Noma be allowed to say a few words and this was granted by the Court.

Wanted Counsel

Noma said that he first received the charge sheet in October. He then applied that besides a Japanese defence counsel, he should like to have Mr. R. S. Smith, Crown Prosecutor, as additional defence counsel. Mr. Smith subsequently went to see him at Stanley Gaol. At that time Mr. Smith told him he had a great mind to appear for him, but since he was busy investigating alleged Japanese collaborators, he would apply to the authorities concerned for postponement. Mr. Smith said he would like to appear for him as much as possible, but if that was not possible, he would recommend Mr. Silva in his stead.

Noma said he had no further communication from Mr. Smith and only a few days ago he heard from his defence counsel that Mr. Smith applied to the authorities concerned to be Noma's defence counsel, even ignoring his present duties but this application was rejected.

Noma said he would, therefore, like to have Mr. Silva as his defence counsel.

Only Stalling?

Opposing postponement of the trial, Major MacGregor said that Noma was charged two months ago. At that time it was common knowledge that he had been visited by Mr. Smith whom he requested to defend him. Certain arrangements were pending at the time and Major MacGregor said he was later informed that nothing came out of them and that a Japanese counsel would defend Noma.

As long ago as the Formosan Camp case, Major MacGregor said that he was informed that the defence was ready to proceed. Nine days ago, however, when he saw the defence counsel no mention of any civilian counsel was made. Major MacGregor said the Court should decide whether or not Noma had had an opportunity to prepare his defence.

He had, however, no objection as to who should appear for him and he was opposing any adjournment as he thought it was only for stalling for time.

The application was refused by the President, who said that the defence had had ample opportunity to prepare its case and that they had no good grounds for any adjournment. They could, if they liked, engage Mr. Silva at a later stage before it was too late, but in any case the case would not be adjourned yesterday.

Opening Major MacGregor said:

Prosecution Opens
"In the Japanese armed forces and civilians, one group have always figured prominently in trials, perhaps more so than any other single section. That is the Kempetai, or as they are also known, the Gendarmes. In Hong Kong, their history has not been their only record in other spheres of mil-

tary operations. And in this area such has been the degree, regularity and consistency and of the types of offences and of the individuals were not unconnected, not merely separate delinquencies, but part of a deliberate policy inspired by their leadership here. So you see before you, as accused, Col. Noma Kennosuke, C. O. of the Gendarmes in Hong Kong from the time of the invasion in December 1941 to February 1945, when he was relieved of his command and returned to Japan. And for the sum total of the crimes of all those under his authority, the prosecution seek to make him account.

"You will appreciate that in order to attribute the shortcomings of his subordinates to the accused, it must first be explained to you exactly what was the scope of their operations and the nature of their activities. This can best be reliably conveyed to you by a responsible and knowledgeable officer who was actually on the spot in Hong Kong. And surely by none more able than Accused himself. So a statement will be proved and tendered in evidence, made by him in which he gives you this information.

Dogs Used On Woman

"A Mr. J. A. Stricker will tell you of seven Chinese coolies, tied up near the Peak Tram in Garden Road, in full view of everyone. When he first saw them, several had already collapsed and all were completely exhausted. They were still there 24 hours later, by which time some had apparently died. This was on December 30, 1941. This place, as you know, is in the very heart of Hong Kong—so that it must have been witnessed and countenanced by Gendarmes in their capacity as police.

"Mr. Emil Landau will describe the use of Alsatian dogs to savage a Chinese woman in Mt. Davis Road, and the practising of Ju-Jitsu on Chinese civilians on concrete surfaces. And he says, Gendarmes used Chinese as dummies for training of Alsatian dogs to attack people. The unfortunate people were badly torn about in the process.

"Dr. Siegfried Ramler will testify to the use of dogs by Gendarmes to savage people also in Mt. Davis Road. Groups of about 12 people at a time, men, women and children, would be dealt with. And witness claims he saw this happen at least ten times during 1943-1944.

"Frederick Tyndall was another who saw Gendarmes in early 1945, patrolling the streets with Alsatian or wolf hound dogs trained to attack people at their order.

"The most significant thing about these is that Accused claims in his statement that no dogs were used by the Gendarmes. But you are asked to glean from these incidents that from the outset, Gendarmes were quite prepared to display publicly their complete disregard for orthodox behaviour in the maintenance of order.

Sinister Workings
"A statement will be read of Pte. Alex Henkel of the Winnipeg Grenadiers. At the fall of Hong Kong, he was a patient in Queen Mary's Hospital and he stayed there for a fortnight. From here he could see Japanese soldiers torture Chinese civilians, bayonet some and throw them into the sea. On one occasion, about 15 Chinese civilians were set out in the sun with gasoline cans over their heads till they died of asphyxiation. Here I suggest you consider how this measures up with Noma's admitted duty to prevent general ill-treatment of civilians, and the maintenance of order.

"That is all on general matter. The second sub-heading concerns the sinister workings of Accused's police organisation and his Gendarmerie Stations. You will remember he listed some of these in his statement, e.g. Tai Po, Kowloon, Shamshuipo, Yaumatei, Eastern or Happy Valley, Central Police Station and Supreme Court.

"You will hear witnesses as to the management and conditions prevailing in all these sub-stations. Nor are the witnesses confined to a particular time. Their evidence covers the whole of the Accused's period in Hong Kong. They will tell you of the starvation diet, the filthy presentation of a meagre ration of food, the hopelessly overcrowded cells in which they existed in degrading circumstances, of how they were not allowed to wash, of verminous blankets which were their only bedding, of the complete lack of

medicines or medical treatment. Deaths in these cells were a common thing and did not seem of much consequence. All these things, let me say again are not restricted either to a particular place or time.

Blood-Chilling

"And, always, always, so that the recital will weary you, those who were there describe the blood-chilling tortures, which we have come to associate inevitably with the word 'interrogation' and the name 'Kempetai'. These are many and are well known in these Courts. There is the water treatment, where the suspect is made to undergo the suffocating sensations of a drowning man. People have died under it, and others have committed suicide to avoid it. There are beatings with sticks, belts, bamboo rods, straps and wire cables. Sometimes the victim is burnt, with cigarettes, or with newspaper rolled up. There are instances of a person under interrogation having to walk on hot coals, or having clinders placed on his chest. You will see the unmistakable scars on some who will testify. As a variation, some people would be kicked and thrown onto concrete floors by these mighty exponents of Ju-Jitsu, these men who served their master Noma; or suspended with their hands behind their backs. This you will hear described as 'Aviation' or 'Aeroplane' torture. Again, electric torture is applied. The victim is connected to a battery or field telephone, and subjected to the agony of a continuous current.

"Dogs were employed at some sub-stations. They were also used to make people talk; large dogs of the Alsatian or wolf hound pattern. Accused denies all knowledge of them, though one was actually at the Supreme Court, ask the Court to remember that, as it nears the evidence, and consider whether this man had good reason to deny the existence of these dogs. We say, of course, that Accused knew well of their existence. You can't hide an Alsatian dog for months from people in the same building.

Executions

"Then there are executions without trial. In two cases, they are cited, evidence comes from Japanese themselves, that Accused actually ordered them. In other cases this is not proven so categorically, but you cannot escape the inference that he approved it. It will appear the victims had no trial. And evidence will be forthcoming that the executions from

one Station, anyway, were reported to the Gendarmerie Headquarters.

"The Prosecution claim under the whole of this second aspect of the hearings is a simple one, viz. that all of these practices were so widespread and continuous that he must have known of their existence. And in as much as they continued, he must bear the responsibility for them.

"There are, as you may have guessed, instances of protest having been made directly to Noma. Lt. Col. Kanazawa was the Governor General's Chief of Staff from July 1944 to February 1945. He says that the Governor, through him, admonished Accused because of reports heard of visiting brutality on prisoners. Maj. Gen. Tomita heard from his fellow officers on his arrival in Hong Kong, that there were many bad points in the Hong Kong Gendarmerie. He says Noma as Chief, should be responsible for these misbehaviours. Col. Noma was returned to Japan partly for that reason.

"Another witness Li Koon-chun will tell you he was one of a detention who protested against detaining people in various places not fit to be prisons, that these places were insanitary and in them people were so poorly fed; that they were actually dying because of the treatment they received. Permission was asked to inspect these prisons; but it was refused. All this happened way back in 1942-43. But you will see that helpless people still continued to die, for the same reason, in 1944. And that is why the prosecution is at pains to show you the state of things in 1944; that they were exactly the same as in 1942. Protests were of no avail against a settled policy, simply because it was settled, and it was a policy.

Chinese Complaints

"Those who were imprisoned in Accused's own HQs will tell you he couldn't have failed to have heard the screams of those being interrogated—a daily occurrence, remember, for three years. You will be told he inspected the cells when they were overcrowded to about three times their capacity. One witness will tell you he was receiving electric torture at Central one day. There were others—suspended from beams in the same room. Accused entered the room and stood watching for a few minutes. He did not interfere.

"Noma himself says he received various anonymous letters from Chinese complaining of torture. Two were when Capt. Shiozawa was in charge of Kowloon Magistrate. He admits to having cautioned the Captain. He even went to stations to look at instruments of torture, but couldn't find any. Perhaps you may be impressed

with his zeal. In another place he says he is sorry some of his men beat the prisoners.

"But the story goes further than that. Gendarmes are not used to doing things quickly and fairly; and soon they merely rounded up anyone they saw, no matter who he was, and whether in possession of a rice ration card or not. Some of these people were able to buy their freedom; others gained it through the efforts of their relatives. But others again, having been unceremoniously arrested, were deported without a chance, even of notifying relatives. You will see the Gendarmes' point of view, a good citizen acts as much as a criminal. And indiscriminate arrests are much easier than the tiresome business of investigation and arresting selected persons, so get rid of anyone at all. For them the object of the exercise was to lessen the population, and in doing so they carried out the spirit if not the letter of their instructions with an alacrity which does credit to their enthusiasm if not their discrimination.

Sir Robert Kotewall
"In Hong Kong during the occupation were two organisations, known as the Chinese Co-operative Council and the Chinese Representative Council.

"The duties of the two Councils were, briefly, to represent the interests of the Chinese Community and act intermediary between them and the Japanese Government. They were to convey the views of the Chinese people to the Government on any public question which might arise. And vice versa.

"Copies of minutes of two meetings of these organisations will be proved and produced by Chan Sheung-pak, a translation of each will then be proven by Major Chan of 13 War Crimes Investigation Team.

"The first of these relates to a meeting of the Chinese Co-operative Council held on August 16, 1943, in which an impromptu motion is made by the Chairman, Li Koon-chun, regarding the unconscionable way in which the deportations were being carried out. It was resolved at that meeting that the motion be submitted to the second body, the Representative Council. Sir Robert Kotewall, was Chairman of this Representative Council. He will say he received a copy of these minutes on or about August 16, and as a result, brought up the matter referred to at the forthrightly meeting with the Governor, which was held a day or so later. He did so, and on August 19, 1943, reported on his actions to a meeting of his own Representative Council.

"The reason for all this, torture is obvious enough when you ex-

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RAYON FOR HONG KONG

Tokyo, Dec. 24. The Allied authorities in Japan have directed the Japanese Government to prepare 300,000 lb. of rayon yarn and more than half a million boxes of assorted finished rayon yarn for export to Hong Kong, it is learned here today—Reuter.

Engineer Flourishes Revolver

Summarising the facts of the case against Alan Kirby Cook, 28, chief electrician of the mv. Gujarat, charged with possession of a revolver and 28 rounds of ammunition without a licence in Tsinghsui on the evening of Dec. 21, Insp. C. Askew told the Magistrate, Mr. W. H. Latimer, at Kowloon Court yesterday that one round had been discharged from the revolver while a sailor was trying to wrest it away from defendant at the Red Lion Inn. "There is no need to emphasize the fact that this must be considered a serious case," Insp. Askew said. "We have here an engineer officer taking out a loaded and very serviceable Webley revolver and flourishing it about. A sailor attempts to take it away and a round is discharged, fortunately doing no damage." Mr. Latimer said he thought defendant could not appreciate the seriousness of the case. Insp. Askew said that as far as could be ascertained Cook met a sailor on his way to the Red Lion Inn who offered him the revolver for \$100. Cook had bargained the purchase price down to \$60. Cook told the Magistrate that if he hadn't had too much to drink, the incident would never have happened. Mr. Latimer: "I'm willing to believe that." A fine of \$250 was imposed.

Had Too Many Passengers

Wong Chung, master of the ss. "Kwan Lai," a Chinese vessel on the Hong Kong-Kowloon run, was charged before Comdr. Ryder in the Marine Court yesterday for leaving port with passengers in excess of the number declared in the clearance. He was fined \$100, plus \$2 for each of 49 excess passengers carried. S.I. Schirjety of the Water Police informed the Court that he intercepted the "Kwan Lai" off Stonecutters at 1 a.m. on Dec. 24, and a check up revealed the excess passengers. Wong Chung said the excess passengers boarded his vessel after 6 p.m. when it was not possible to submit an amended application for clearance. He held a passenger certificate issued by the Chinese authorities to carry 120.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Latest arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel:—L. Rover, Mr. and Mrs. E. Newton, Rev. and Mrs. M. W. Haskins, Miss Flora Pedson, Miss Faith Snuggs, J. H. A. Middleton, J. H. Smith, Mrs. J. W. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. D. Drummond, Mr. E. A. D. Green, Mrs. E. D. Spark, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Garrard, D. Fitzgerald and W. C. Simpson.

Peninsula departures:—Capt. and Mrs. B. R. Guttorfson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Y. C. Yung and J. L. Martin.

APPEAL ON BEHALF OF COLONY'S WAIFS

Ten Clubs Formed Since The War

A strong appeal to ameliorate the lot of poor children in the Colony was made by the Rt. Rev. N. V. Halward in an address before the Hong Kong Rotary Club yesterday.

An organisation doing splendid work among poor children in the Colony, Bishop Halward said, was the Boys and Girls Club Association, which, in its nine months' postwar activities, had managed to set up ten—eight for boys and two for girls—with an average attendance of 40 at each club. Their members, mostly school boys and children of the hawker class, met in all sorts of places ranging from the anterooms of temples to school premises, and lessons were held in the evening from 6 to 8 p.m. in simple subjects hygiene &c. Outings were arranged on Sundays.

A probation camp had been set up at Stanley for the reception of children sent by magistrates on probation, with accommodation for about a hundred. Grounds were being cleared for a football field, and early next year a carpentry shop would be started.

The Association hoped to set up, provided support was forthcoming, ten more clubs to be sponsored by schools and old boys and girls of schools. Another plan in contemplation was the erection of Nissen huts in Hong Kong and Kowloon for housing destitute children. Another scheme in the blue print stage was the establishment of a Sea Training School.

The finances of the Association were in a precarious state. Monthly expenditure was \$2,000 and in three months' time it would be \$6,000.

Bishop Halward said there were 50,000 children in the Colony, whose parents were in the employ of Government and public—utility concerns—who were without education. An attempt had been made to provide schools, but due to inability to secure premises so far only one school had been set up where about 200 children were being schooled.

The evening classes organised by the Boys and Girls Club Association had done splendid work for 6,000 odd shoe shines and other waifs. The Rotary Club had generously come forward with a contribution of \$7,000.

Thanking the speaker, the President of Hong Kong Rotary, Lt.-Col. E. J. R. Mitchell, said after the experiences which had gained in internment during the Japanese occupation it needed little imagination for people to visualise the lot of the Colony's unfortunate children. The Community Service Committee of the Club was organising a charity dance to raise funds, and a suggestion had been put forward that there should also be a flag day. Members willing to assist were requested to communicate with the Rev. George She.

The Club welcomed back yesterday an old Batarian Mr. M. Nicholson, and also Mr. A. A. Rajani, a visitor from Sri Lanka.

Guests present were Messrs. E. Ellison, Walter J. Kelly, C. F. Cahill, Jr. Robert Chandler and W. C. Ferris.

"ROSEBANK" IN TOW

The ss. Rosebank, which was disabled off Hainan a few days ago, has now been taken in tow by H.M.S. Constance, though, because of heavy seas, the tow is only making progress at two knots. King Salvor is keeping H.M.S. Constance company, but the escort vessel Alacrity returned to port yesterday.

"Infuriated" With Navy, Deserted

Thrapston, Dec. 24. Jack Mantle, of Thrapston, Northants, sentenced by court martial in November to twelve months' imprisonment for desertion from the Navy after five years' exemplary service in the Army during the war, will be freed from Maidstone Prison early in the New Year. His sentence has been reviewed by the Admiralty.

Mantle, who is 32 years of age, deserted from the Navy before the war because he was "infuriated" with the service over a domestic affair.

Later he joined the Army, and fought in many actions. After the war, he was anxious to clear his record, reported to the Navy and was court martialled—Reuter.

CAROL SERVICE

The message of Christmas was delightfully presented at the St. Andrews Carol Service last Sunday evening to a packed Church. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. H. Ogilvie assisted by the Rev. A. E. Clayton, and the choir under the Organist and Choirmaster, Mr. Geoffrey Dibbs sang many of our favourite carols. The Diocesan Girls' School played a prominent part, not only in the singing but also in the reading of the Gospels.

The Scripture passages were read by Robert Low, Bertha Howells, Alice Oei, Susan Heywood, Joan Hearther, Margaret Fletcher and Mr. Marsden. The congregation entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of the service and particularly appreciated the reading of the children.

Pleading guilty to armed robbery and found guilty of conspiracy to rob, Lai Fai and Ip Sang were each sentenced to eight years' hard labour and 10 years' probation by Mr. Justice E. H. Williams, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

Found not guilty by the unanimous decision of the jury, Ho Sum, 23, was acquitted by Mr. Justice T. J. Gould at the Criminal Sessions yesterday of a charge of assaulting with intent to rob Mr. Ebrahim Sadick, of No. 4, Seymour Road.

Lucky It Was Xmas

A fine of \$200 was imposed by the Magistrate, Mr. W. H. Latimer, at Kowloon Court yesterday on John Edwards, 54, boatwain, and William Downs, 44, donkeyman, of the m.v. "Daghestan", who were found guilty of the larceny of a bale of tweed material, valued at \$90, the property of UNRRA.

Evidence was given by two Chinese watchmen, one testifying to having seen both defendants descending into No. 5 Hold, and the other to having seen Downs climbing out of the hold with the bale on his shoulder. G. B. Craig, Chief Officer, gave evidence of having found the bale in the carpenter's shop aboard, to which Edwards, as boatwain, had a key.

Edwards, in his defence, said that a lot of other people aboard had passed or sketched keys that could have opened the door to the carpenter's shop. "Everybody on board had a skeleton key to everything," Edwards said. "It's the same on every ship I served on."

Asked if he did not realise the fact that there were valuable goods stored in the carpenter's shop and it would be normal for the ship's officers to take careful check of who would have keys, Edwards replied: "As long as nothing goes adrift, nobody bothers about it."

Craig, who was one of the three witnesses for the prosecution, said that Edwards was one of the best boys he had ever had. He agreed with the Magistrate that it was probably a case of the two defendants being the worse for drink. "It has been rather against my grain," Craig said, "to bring this case up, but there is too much of it going on on-board the ship."

Insp. Askew, prosecuting, produced Downs' papers, which testified to an honourable discharge from every ship he had served on since 1928. In imposing the fine, Mr. Latimer told defendants that they had been guilty of a serious offence of a type that was much too frequent today when there were hawkers who came aboard ships ready to barter goods against items on the ship's cargo.

Downs: "You want to fine me \$200 for nothing at all?" Insp. Askew: "That's contempt of Court, Your Worship." Mr. Latimer: "It's also Christmas Eve."

Washington, Dec. 23. The Secretary of State, Mr. James Byrnes, will take a few days' vacation this week—the first since taking his Cabinet job 18 months ago—before conferring with Mr. George Messersmith, United States Ambassador called home from Argentina, it was learned today—United Press.

NOTICE

We have pleasure in announcing that as from the 1st January, 1947, Mr. Lee Hon Chee has entered into partnership in this firm.

WILKINSON & GRIST.

Police Children's Party

Nearly one hundred children ranging from one to fourteen years, the sons and daughters of the Colony's European Police Force staff, went to a Christmas party yesterday afternoon, complete with Santa Claus, Christmas tree and professional Chinese conjurer.

In the Central Police Station gymnasium, which had been decorated for the occasion, they romped and played round a fir tree 25 feet high and laden with presents and bags of sweets, which were later distributed by Sub-Inspector R. White—alias Father Christmas.

A Mickey Mouse "special" was shown on the Station cinema screen before the children were given a royal Christmas tea. Over \$3,000 had been subscribed by the men for the party which was organised by a committee of ten—Mr. and Mrs. Calthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Major, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Smith, Mrs. Winslow, Mr. Russell, Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Gee.

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Appraisers. Pedder Building. Telephone No. 20224.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instruction from the Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction

on MONDAY,

the 30th December, 1946,

commencing at 10.00 a.m.

at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building, Basement.

256 LOTS OF VALUABLE GOODS,

comprising:—

Stored at Custodian "I.K." Godown, Ma Tau Wei Road, Kowloon—Machinery and Machine Parts, Ship's Indicators, Hooks, Nuts and Cable Eyes, Boiler Tube Steel Brushes, Electrical Motors and Accessories, Transformers, Electric Switches, Motor Starters, Scrap Copper Tubes, Scrap Iron Rods and Pipes, Dynamos, Radio Sets and Parts, Cardboard, Porcelain Insulators, Fuel Oil Filters, Augur Bits and Drill Bits, Fire Tongs and Smith's Tongs, Sledge and Stone Hammers, Flying Bars, Grinding Blocks, Carpenter's Hand Drills, Ventilator Grids, Car Parts, Instrument Pulleys, Rubber Heels, Scales, Tops, Etc., Surface Plates, Nails, Screws, Bolts, Etc., Condenser Plates, Magnifier and Rectifier Units, Radio Meters, Air Condensers, Radio Cabinets, Boilers, Galvanized Iron Wire, Galvanized Iron Sheets, Mangrove Bark, Emery Cloth, Blue Yarn, Electric Stoves, Platform Scales, Earthenware Jars, Shuckles, Chemicals, Gear Boxes, Sockets, Fuse Wire, Drawing Tables, Steel Nuts, Emery Powder, Laboratory Fittings, Etc., Porcelain Fittings, Ore, Circular Saws, Belling, Welding Rods, Tinplate, Empty Drums, Window Glass, Washing Soap, Band Saws, Weaving Machine Parts, Motor Car Accessories, Rubber Inner Tubes, Etc.

Inspection of above stores now lying at H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong, can be made between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, the 23rd and 24th December, 1946.

WALTER M. WEINBERGER, Chairman, BRITISH STORES DISPOSAL BOARD (HONG KONG).

AUCTION SALE

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISPOSALS FAR EASTERN AREA (M.O.S.) Messrs. Lammer Brothers of Pedder Building, Hong Kong, have received instructions to sell by Auction at H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong, at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, the 27th day of December, 1946:—

A LARGE QUANTITY OF NAVAL STORES AND MACHINERY, comprising:—

Parsons Generator, Foam Extinguishers, Pyrene Extinguishers, Gauges, Blow Lamps, Candle & Hurricane Lamps, Lanterns, Fire Buckets, Galvanized Water Cans, Fog & Klaxon Horns, Axes, Bearings, Measuring Tapes, Vices, Bicycles, Iron Beds, Lockers, Camp Beds, Furniture, Blankets, Washing Hand Bowls, Felting, Mattress Covers, Mosquito Nets, Life Belts, Stretchers, Potentiometers, Transformers, Searchlight Projectors, Telephones, Old Batteries, Carbon Brushes, Bascos, Life Lights, Table Fans, Alkali Lamps, Lamps, Radiators Etc., Etc.

Old Iron, Old File, Old Cork, Old Rubber, Old Horse Hair, Old Aluminium, Brass Borings, Mixed Brass Scrap, Old Light Copper, Brass Scrap, Old Metal, Lead Battery Plates, Old Zinc, Etc., Etc.

Lathes, Milling Machine, Power Hack Saw, Compressors, 5 Cwt. Pneumatic Hammer, Planing and Drilling Machines, Circular and Horizontal Saws, Rolling Machine, Wood working Machine, Etc., Etc.

2½ to 4 Ton Ransome & Rapier Petrol/Electric Mobile Crane.

Permits to view, catalogues, Special Conditions of Sales, etc. may be obtained from Messrs. Lammer Brothers.

Inspection of above stores now lying at H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong, can be made between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, the 23rd and 24th December, 1946.

WALTER M. WEINBERGER, Chairman, BRITISH STORES DISPOSAL BOARD (HONG KONG).

NOTICE

Dr. M. Nicolson at present residing at the Peninsula Hotel and formerly practising in Alexandra Building is now in practice with Drs. Kirk, Lee & Yio, Exchange Building, 3rd Floor, telephone No. 39973.

NOTICE

I, HAMISH HAROLD FINDLAY GOURLIE of the Peninsula Hotel, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hong Kong heretofore called and known by the name of HAROLD FINDLAY GOURLIE HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that on the 24th day of December 1946 I assumed the name of HAMISH HAROLD FINDLAY GOURLIE instead of the said name of Harold Findlay Gourlie only, AND FURTHER that such change of name is evidenced by a deed dated the 24th day of December, 1946 duly executed by me and attested.

Dated the 24th day of December, 1946.

HAMISH HAROLD FINDLAY GOURLIE formerly HAROLD FINDLAY GOURLIE.

HARBOUR DEPARTMENT NOTIFICATION

FOR INFORMATION OF SHIP OPERATORS AND CHARTERERS

Friday, 20th December, 1946 is hereby declared to have been a weather non-working day.

J. JOLLY, Harbour Master.

Harbour Department, Hongkong, 23rd Dec. 1946.

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SELECTION COMMITTEE HONG KONG

All those wishing to enter Universities in the United Kingdom should apply now to the Director of Education for this necessary form of application. Application forms for admission to Oxford or Cambridge must be returned, not later than 31st December, 1946, for other Universities not later than 15th January, 1947.

A limited number of scholarships will be awarded under Colonial Development and Welfare Act to candidates of outstanding merit who would not otherwise be able to proceed to a British University.

K. J. ATTWELL, Secretary to the Committee. Hong Kong, 24th Dec. 1946.

NOTICE

It is hereby notified that Sealed Tenders in Duplicate will be received at the Office of the Custodian of Property until 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, 28th December, 1946, for the purchase of the following unclaimed property.

Tenders should be clearly marked "Tenders for"

ITEM No.	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	GODOWN	REMARKS (IF ANY)
1	1 Keg	Wire Nails	China Provident	
2	1 Drum	Cable	—do— No. 16	
3	3 Boxes	Tin Plate	—do— No. 15	Quotation for "Lot" only
4	1 Crate	Treadle Printing Machine	Sui Bun For 1	
5	1 Crate	Wheels & Pulleys	—do—	
6	2 Cases	Electric Bells	—do—	
		Machinery Parts for Water Softener System	—do—	
7	1 Piece	Electric Generator	1—K	D.C. Volt: 100-110 Revs. 550 RPM AMP 55 Rating Continuous. E.W.O
8	3 Cases	Torchlights	Sui Bun For 3	
9	1 Page	Ship's Transmitting Set	—do—	
10	1 Page	Sounding Machine	—do—	
11	1 Case	Cylindrical Tank	—do—	14" dia. x 5' "Andrews Hoff" for Chemical process work
		Three-Stage Compressor	—do—	
12	18 Case	Torchlight Holders	Wing On	
13	451 Bds.	Newsprint	China Provident	
14	70 Bds.	Mat Bags	Sui Bun For 1	
15	4 Cases	Sisalwood	—do—	
16	51 Bds.	Tinplate	China Provident	
17	220 Bds.	Tinplate	—do—	
18	62 Bds.	Tinplate	—do—	
19	322 Bds.	Straw Braid	Sui Bun For	
20	49 Bales	Straw Ribbons	—do—	Some bales loose—Contents short
	21 Cases	Enamel Ware	—do—	Tiffin Carriers

Inspection permits will be issued to prospective purchasers by the Disposals (Tenders) Branch of the Custodian of Property Office, Windsor House on application.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender and reserves the right to accept all or any part of each tender.

No warranty is given in any way as to Description, Condition, Quantities or Numbers.

Hong Kong, 20th December, 1946.

J. WHYATT, Custodian of Property.

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PERSONAL

D. O. SILVER having returned to the Colony wishes all friends a Merry Christmas and will call on you soon if you want him sooner phone 31211 or write to P.O. Box 402.

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CODEBOOK: Acme Commodity Phrase, Bentley Second Phrase, Brand New \$180 each. Phone 30381 c/o Room 321 Mr. Wang, every morning.

SPECIAL SALE American Stainless steel sinks, forks & spoons—24 piece set at \$55.—per set. Obtainable at V. M. Hammond & Co. Union Bldg. 4th floor.

THE HONG KONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Company's Offices, Queen's Building, on Tuesday, 31st December, 1946, at NOON for the purpose of confirming the appointment of the Board of Directors and receiving their Report together with Statements of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1946, and for the period 1st January, 1947 to 31st December, 1946.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

H. DA LUZ, Secretary.

Hongkong, 12th Dec. 1946.



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HONGKONG-SHANGHAI Monday, 30th Dec.

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YULETIDE

The great annual festival of Christmas is with us once again, touching the hearts of people of all nations with its benign influence, and a time for general rejoicing. Here in Hong Kong, the celebration will be on a larger and happier scale than has been possible for several years, for the majority of families have been reunited, even if so many of them are not yet back in their old homes, and it will again be possible to share in the joy and happiness of the youngsters. It is also a day in which hearts are awakened in a special way to the needs of the less fortunate, when we give our thoughts more readily to the well-being of others, and it is perhaps appropriate that it should be made the occasion for a special appeal on behalf of the Boys and Girls Clubs Association, which is doing so much excellent work on behalf of the poorer children of the Colony. It should not, of course, be necessary. At this time, particularly, it is difficult to resist the feeling of how different the world could and would be if we were only able to retain the Christmas spirit alive over the whole year. The poor and needy, lacking proper food and shelter, call for alleviation of their distress in January and June as well as December, and if the problem is not so obviously acute in 1946 as it has been in past years, there still remains a spectacle of poverty that may well give those in more comfortable circumstances something to ponder over in the midst of to-day's entertainments and festivities. But if the millennium is not yet with us, it has to be conceded that we are all the better for the annual Christmas festival and if the rejoicing and good works do not in human nature, survive for the next twelve months, it is still a gain that at least once in the year we are able to join spontaneously in a gesture of good wishes and good will. In extending greetings to readers, we give a special thought to the men and women of the Services in Hong Kong who are separated from those nearest and dearest to them by some thousands of miles. For them there can be no better wish than that they may soon rejoin their family fireside circles. Once again, to all, a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Changes were made in the Sanitary Code and Code of Ordinances so that the Health Commissioner and police could prosecute "indiscriminate use of loudspeakers." It forbade the use altogether of loudspeakers in any public place without a permit from the Police Commissioner, or within 250ft. of a school, courthouse, church, or hospital during the hours it was in use.

A questionnaire showed that noisy motor trucks and automobile horns worried people most.

Forms were sent out to New York people listing 26 common "sources" of noise. They were asked to mark the noises which annoyed them most, the location, the hours, and sign their names. Back came 11,068 replies.

Traffic (trucks, automobile horns, cut-outs, brakes, buses, traffic whistles, motor cycles) accounted for 36.28 per cent. of the complaints.

Transport (trams, subways) was next with 16.29 per cent. Then followed radios (homes and streets), 12.34 per cent. Collections and deliveries (rubbish, ash, milk, ice), 9.25; whistles and bells (Fire Department, locomotives, tugs, steamships), 8.28; construction (riveting, pneumatic drill), 7.40; vocal &c. (newsboys, peddlers, dogs, cats, noisy parties), 7.27; others, 2.89.

Then came the traffic problem, the toughest nut to crack. The Noise Abatement Commission arranged that the Board of Transportation should study all available methods of reducing noise. Chief Engineer Robert Ridgway prepared a report, and among his suggestions were:—

Bolt pads of rubber or other material on the wheels to take the ring out of them and quieten trolley cars.

Construct a vertical skirt of some sound-absorbing material round the lower car frame to confine noise.

He also reported what had been done:—A truck designed to cut down noise due to loose and rattling parts; resonance reduced by putting felt insulation on the inside of all side sheets of car bodies; rails for new subway tracks laid practically end to end (instead of having a small distance of 4 in. of 3-in. at the joints), so as to reduce the noise of wheels passing over joints.

The Noise Abatement Commission fired a few more shots. It tested motor-car horns, and cut down on "whistle corner"—traffic crossings where police officers were permitted to use whistles. It also experimented to find a policeman's whistle with a less nerve-rending sound.

It discovered that when New Yorkers went to the theatre they heard only 65 per cent. of the spoken words. Part of it was due to slurred enunciation, but part of it was also due to noise coming in from the streets, coughing, shuffling feet, and whispers.

Chief offenders were honking motorists, noisy bell-ringing

Britons In Yugoslav Hands

Belgrade, Dec. 23.

It was revealed tonight that four British soldiers who have been held by the Yugoslav authorities since August and September following alleged infringements of the frontier came from the British occupation troops in Austria and not Venezia Giulia, as originally stated.

An authoritative British source stated tonight that one of the men was taken into custody a hundred yards inside the Yugoslav territory "while buying wine" and was "not aware of the precise location of the frontier."

The British source added that the three others, at the time of detention, "were, in fact, on Yugoslav soil."

It was further stated that "in all these cases, there is no doubt that the frontier at the points where these men were arrested is difficult to define and it is natural and inevitable that inadvertent crossing of it must take place from time to time."

Reuter.

CAIRO TALKS

Cairo, Dec. 23.

An exchange of views between the British Ambassador to Egypt, Sir Ian Campbell, and the Egyptian Premier, Nokrashy Pasha, took place for two hours today. It is reliably learned that there is no question of Anglo-Egyptian negotiations for a revision of the 1936 treaty being resumed shortly.

Although the Ambassador did not tell correspondents the result of today's talk, Nokrashy Pasha indicated that the Sudan was mentioned.

Reuter.

NEW YORK'S CAMPAIGN FOR SILENCE

Anti-Noise propagandists who want to quieten the din of Hong Kong life might do worse than study the anti-noise battle in New York, where in one year 35,758 people were brought before the Courts for making too much noise.

New York also put silence on its railway station turnstiles, clamped down on blaring radios and gramophones, and cut the number of times a policeman on a corner beat should blow his whistle.

In 1929 the Commissioner of Health appointed a Noise Abatement Commission in New York City "to study the complex noise situation and to find ways to eliminate unnecessary noise." (Sydney had a Noise Abatement Society before the war, but the organisation has been defunct since 1939.)

New York's anti-noise squad threw itself whole-heartedly into the job of quietening the city and its people. It made long and involved technical research into the cause and degree of noise, its effect on people's nerves and work. It called for reports on noise, and suggestions from transport and mechanical experts on how noise could be cut down.

It had a conference on river and harbor noise, attended by representatives of steamship and railroad companies, who pledged themselves to eliminate unnecessary whistles, sirens, and horns.

The Post-master gave instructions to drivers of mail trucks to use warning signals only to prevent accidents. The first noiseless whistle was installed at Grand Central Station.

Changes were made in the Sanitary Code and Code of Ordinances so that the Health Commissioner and police could prosecute "indiscriminate use of loudspeakers." It forbade the use altogether of loudspeakers in any public place without a permit from the Police Commissioner, or within 250ft. of a school, courthouse, church, or hospital during the hours it was in use.

A questionnaire showed that noisy motor trucks and automobile horns worried people most.

Forms were sent out to New York people listing 26 common "sources" of noise. They were asked to mark the noises which annoyed them most, the location, the hours, and sign their names. Back came 11,068 replies.

Traffic (trucks, automobile horns, cut-outs, brakes, buses, traffic whistles, motor cycles) accounted for 36.28 per cent. of the complaints.

Transport (trams, subways) was next with 16.29 per cent. Then followed radios (homes and streets), 12.34 per cent. Collections and deliveries (rubbish, ash, milk, ice), 9.25; whistles and bells (Fire Department, locomotives, tugs, steamships), 8.28; construction (riveting, pneumatic drill), 7.40; vocal &c. (newsboys, peddlers, dogs, cats, noisy parties), 7.27; others, 2.89.

Then came the traffic problem, the toughest nut to crack. The Noise Abatement Commission arranged that the Board of Transportation should study all available methods of reducing noise. Chief Engineer Robert Ridgway prepared a report, and among his suggestions were:—

Bolt pads of rubber or other material on the wheels to take the ring out of them and quieten trolley cars.

Construct a vertical skirt of some sound-absorbing material round the lower car frame to confine noise.

He also reported what had been done:—A truck designed to cut down noise due to loose and rattling parts; resonance reduced by putting felt insulation on the inside of all side sheets of car bodies; rails for new subway tracks laid practically end to end (instead of having a small distance of 4 in. of 3-in. at the joints), so as to reduce the noise of wheels passing over joints.

The Noise Abatement Commission fired a few more shots. It tested motor-car horns, and cut down on "whistle corner"—traffic crossings where police officers were permitted to use whistles. It also experimented to find a policeman's whistle with a less nerve-rending sound.

It discovered that when New Yorkers went to the theatre they heard only 65 per cent. of the spoken words. Part of it was due to slurred enunciation, but part of it was also due to noise coming in from the streets, coughing, shuffling feet, and whispers.

Chief offenders were honking motorists, noisy bell-ringing

hawkers, hosts at loud and boisterous parties, car-owners of screeching brakes, cyclists with loud sirens, and people with noisy animals.

Hong Kong would be a city of silent trams if it had the PCC (silent) type trams, for which there is a big demand in America. The trams have rubber inserts in the wheels and rubber fittings in the trucks.

—Valda Marshall

hundreds of cotton mills in Lancashire faced with a desperate fuel position, will have to close down shortly unless they receive extra coal within the next few days.

Tonight, the President of the Federation of Master Spinners, on behalf of several hundred firms, sent a telegram to Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell, the British Fuel Minister, saying: "Widespread stoppage imminent unless deliveries come immediately."

This latest development in Britain's fuel crisis came as the threatened shutdown of the big Austin motor works in Birmingham appeared certain of being avoided.

Notices to the staff, under which 14,000 workers were told that the factory would close down indefinitely after the Christmas holidays because of lack of coal are expected to be withdrawn tomorrow when, according to an Austin official, it is likely that the necessary minimum supplies will have been received.—Reuter.

London, Dec. 23.

As from January 6 all industrial workers in Admiralty industrial establishments at home and abroad, whose conditions of service are based on a normal working week of 47 hours, will work a revised normal week of 44 hours.

Over-riding the agreement reached with the trade union side of the Admiralty, the Industrial Council provides for recognition of exceptional circumstances justifying continuation of the "normal" six days week and 44 hours in particular establishments. This course will not be adopted locally, except where direct instructions have already been received from the Admiralty.—Reuter.

London, Dec. 24.

Preliminary talks will begin during January on settling the Sterling balances acquired by India during the war.

Sir Wilfred Eady, of the Treasury, and William Cobbold, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, will visit India to arrange further discussions with the Indian Government.

Eady led the British mission to the Argentine earlier this year and successfully concluded a trade agreement.—Associated

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Lancashire Crisis

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CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"That's what you get for having your corn removed—we never know when it's going to rain!"

Bevin Surprises Americans

Washington, Dec. 23.

Mr. Ernest Bevin's "mildness" and the conciliatory note in his broadcast reply to the British Labour Party revolt against his policy, was surprising some observers here who, today, predicted that the rebels would persist in demanding a more cordial attitude to Russia.

"The revolt" had deeply impressed American opinion, not because of its dimensions, but also because of its association with the revolt of Henry Wallace against what are alleged to be similar anti-Russian policies of Mr. James Byrnes, the U.S. Secretary of State.

Mr. Bevin's optimism regarding co-operation between the great powers and his friendly references to Russia have been particularly noted.

Special prominence was given in some United States reports today to Mr. Bevin's point that there are now only two preponderant powers, the United States and Russia, and his definition of Britain's position midway between the two in geography and way of life.

This confirmed view is increasingly taken for granted in the current United States thinking, but not often voiced as explicitly by British statesmen.

Such a picture of the world scene dominated by the "Big Two" was implied by the United States opinion by press reports of the meetings of the Council of Foreign Ministers in which Mr. Bevin's participation was overshadowed by the struggle between Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Molotov.—Reuter.

The aircraft, which was unarmoured, was stated to have come from Italy.—Reuter.

SOVIET PLANE IN GREECE

London, Dec. 23.

The Greek Commission investigating the landing of a Soviet reconnaissance plane in the Sidirokastra area near the Greek-Bulgarian border last Thursday, found that the Soviet airmen had lost their bearings, Athens radio, quoting a press statement, said tonight.

The aircraft, which was unarmoured, was stated to have come from Italy.—Reuter.

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NO ROOM AT THE INN

By RICHARD TOMPKINS

There will be Christmas gaiety—and even plenty—in Europe for those who can pay dearly, but for the continent's hungry and destitute there is "no room at the inn."

Though the shadow of war has lifted, the dreariness of cold hearths and bare cupboards remains. For the "have-nots," Christmas will be just another day.

The mats of Europe's cities are bulging with luxuries that seem out of place to the wage-earner, but which spell heaven to the nouveau riche. The cost, however, is equivalent to a boom-day Christmas bonus. Shop windows are stuffed with appealing fur coats, silk underwear, jewels, perfumes, scarves, purses and other rich gifts. But prices are fantastic and many a child may only stare and long for the pretty doll through the frosted glass.

The food shops too, are burdened with delicacies such as silver wrapped, note-de-fete goose. Those who want a turkey or a goose will pay up to 150 shillings and if champagne is ordered, the price is unmentionable.

A Paradox

Rome presents the paradox of stores bursting with luxury goods, while the masses would be happy to get an extra ration of spaghetti. In the Via Condotti are splendid arrays of leathers, lace, China, and silverware.

The scarcity of fuel in Holland does all but blacked out shop window displays, where expensive and indifferently made toys are on show. Potatoes, fish, vegetables, and games are more expensive than before the war, while a turkey costs about the equivalent of ten shillings a pound.

Thanks to the Allied occupation forces, Christmas for the German children would be merrier this year. The youngsters would probably rather have a good square meal in an "Army mess than a "Made in Germany" toy.

For those who can afford it in Czechoslovakia there will be the traditional camp dinner, with earwaxy seed cakes, Prune brandy goose, red cabbage and Bohemian dumplings will gladden many a Czech heart.

There will be little cheer in Austria, though the Viennese hope for a supplementary ration that will give them a small amount of coffee and fish, while there is the promise of a few bars of chocolate for children under 12 years of age.

There is plenty to buy in Budapest, but the Hungarians have not the necessary money. Because of import restrictions, Danish shops cannot offer the pre-war variety of goods.

At the most fashionable restaurants of Brussels, the bill for stuffed turkey and such delicacies as pate-a-fol-gras will easily reach the equivalent of 200 shillings per person.

In Norway, although there is a more-than-ample supply of Christmas goods, a damper has been put on shopping because the Government has just sent out the heaviest tax demands in the country's history.

In Britain it is continued austerity, but though rationing is strict, it is largely respected and everyone will get his share. (Continued on Col. 7.)

Such a picture of the world scene dominated by the "Big Two" was implied by the United States opinion by press reports of the meetings of the Council of Foreign Ministers in which Mr. Bevin's participation was overshadowed by the struggle between Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Molotov.—Reuter.

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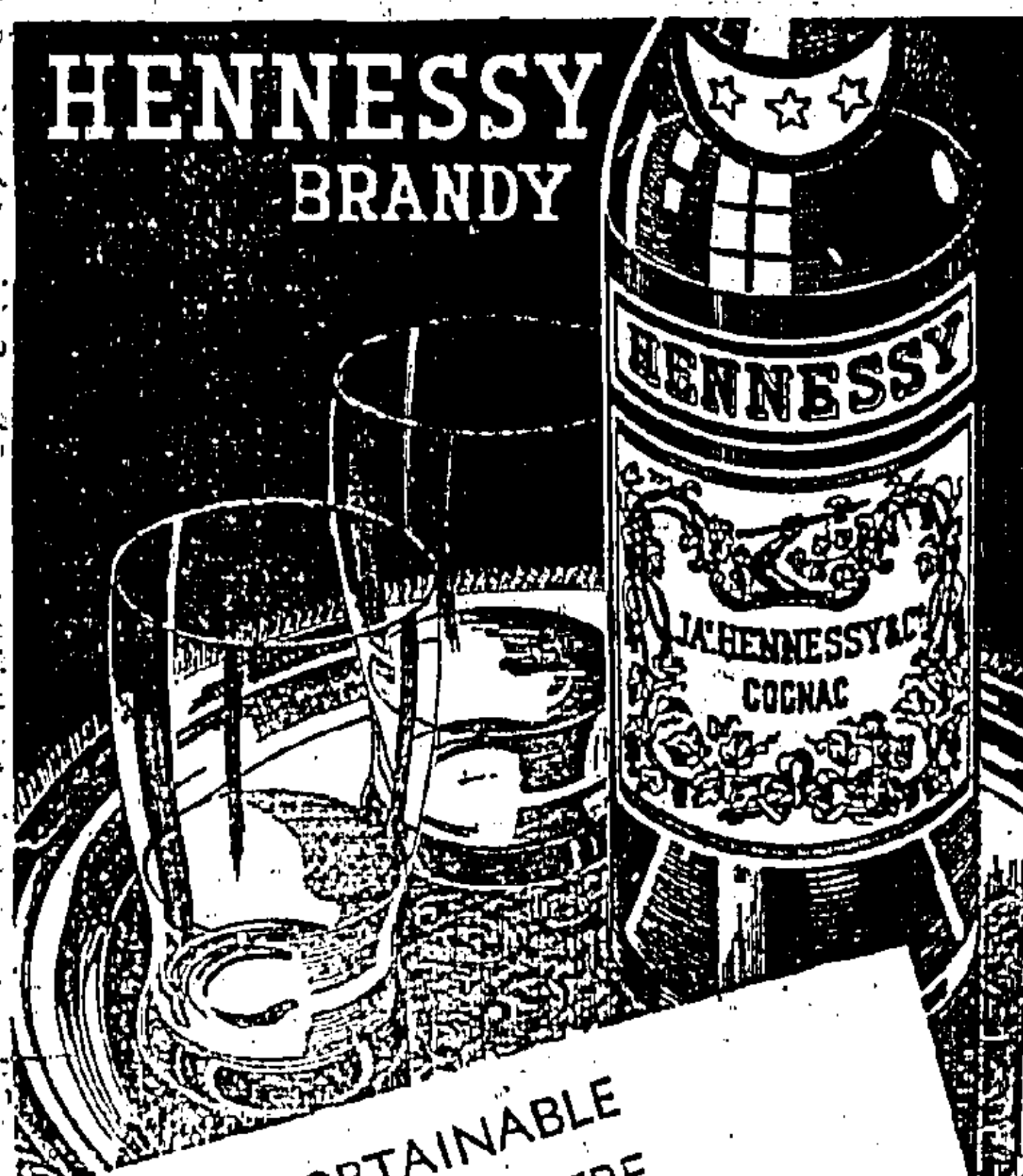
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POTSDAM PACT REVISION

Suggestion By Conservative M.P.'s.

Germany In State Of Collapse

London, Dec. 23. The immediate revision of certain clauses of the Potsdam agreement, if necessary by unilateral British action, was urged in London by two Conservative members of Parliament, Mr. Victor Raikes and Major Guy Lloyd, who have just returned from a five-day visit to Dusseldorf, Hanover, Essen and Hamburg, in the British zone of Germany.

Stating that they had found an utterly shattered economy with the German people not only desperately hungry but completely without hope and in a state of moral collapse, both M.P.s suggested remedies on these lines:

1. The increase of coal output to be achieved by the release of more German prisoners of war for work in German mines;
2. The retention of an increasing percentage of the coal output for use in the British zone;
3. A stop to the dismantling of non-ammunition industries.

There was not the slightest chance of Germany becoming

again the military menace that she was, for many years to come, Mr. Raikes stated, owing to the extent of physical destruction.

At present, production in the British zone in the industrial heart of Germany was between 20 and 30 per cent of the pre-war level.

More coal was essential to stop the decline, and the key to more coal was man-power, which could be obtained if the other powers would follow the British example in announcing the regular release rates for prisoners of war.

Reminded of the French objection to such a policy, Mr. Raikes replied that only if German industry was set going again could France obtain substantial reparations from Germany at a later stage and that the German coal output, including the export, would already be higher but for the French retention of German prisoners of war.

Major Lloyd said to continue the dismantling of useful plant while trying to restore economy was like pouring water into a leaking kettle.

It was no use keeping unilaterally to the Potsdam agreement if it was not implemented by the other powers.

Asked whether they would advocate action contrary to the Potsdam agreement even before the March meeting of the Foreign Ministers, both Members said the moment for a new start was January 1 when the merger of the British and American Zones came into force.—Reuter.

Arab-Jew Conflict Feared

Jerusalem, Dec. 23. Palestine Arabs today foresaw the threat of renewed Arab-Jewish strife, following the preliminary call to arms issued by the commander-in-chief of the Najada—the Arab Army.

Arabs said that the seven years of comparative serenity between Arabs and Jews in Palestine might be abruptly shattered if the Arabs were called upon to engage in planned civil disobedience in protest against what they felt was Jewish encroachment on their rights.

A wildly cheering audience of 5,000 Najada members heard their commander, Mohammed Nimer el Hawari, tell them to organise to "fight the Jews". Hawari said it was the will of Haj Amin Hussein, exiled Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, to organise for the fight.

"The Mufti will give you the signal when the hour comes", Hawari said.—United Press.

No Comment On Dairen Incident

Washington, Dec. 23. The State and Navy Departments today refused to comment on the news that a United States naval vessel was forced to leave Port Dairen by the Russian military authorities.

The Navy's answer to all queries on the incident was "no comment." A State Department spokesman said they had received no official report on the matter so far and would not discuss it until they had official information.

The dispatch said the Russians gave the commander of the United States vessel 20 minutes to leave Dairen after the 48-hour visiting had passed and the Russians would not be responsible for the consequences.—United Press.

British Party In Antarctic

Washington, Dec. 23. The British Antarctic mission established at Admiral Richard Byrd's old base, Margart Bay, due south of Cape Horn, since 1943, has agreed to the request of the State Department to vacate the base when a section of Admiral Byrd's new Antarctic party arrived there, it was learned in Washington today.

The British Embassy said that the British mission, without prejudice to British territorial claims, was removing its post to another site some 300 metres away.

Admiral Byrd, who established the base in 1941, has already left America with one section of the expedition and will rendezvous at sea with the other units taking part.—Reuter.

EXPLOSION IN MINE

West Auckland, Dec. 23. An explosion early today at Ramshaw No. One pit, West Auckland, Durham, resulted in the deaths of two men, while another three are in hospital, suffering from burns.

The explosion is believed to have been caused by a pocket of gas which had accumulated over the week-end.—Reuter.

Ship Sunk By Mine

Athens, Dec. 23.

The 2,240-ton Greek Army ammunition ship, Syra, yesterday struck a magnetic mine and sank outside Volos Harbour, 35 miles southeast of Larissa, completely blocking the port.

The authorities said they did not know if the mine had been deliberately planted in the harbour entrance or had drifted into the area.

Reports said a member of the crew was missing.

The Larissa area, north of Volos, is a stronghold for the Greek guerrilla forces against which the Government forces have been fighting for months.—United Press.

POLICE CHIEF ARRESTED

Hamburg, Dec. 23.

Captain Haurand, the Police Chief of Dusseldorf, has been arrested on suspicion of embezzlement, the British News Service in Germany reported today.

His arrest was ordered by the Cologne District Prosecutor.—Reuter.

Round-Table Talks In India

London, Dec. 23. A round table conference of all Indian political, communal and princely elements, to be held in New Delhi before the Constituent Assembly reassembles on January 20, is a "strong possibility," responsible Indian political quarters said today.

These quarters said the Congress Party is now inclined to adopt a "more conciliatory" attitude towards the Moslem League, as evidenced by the Congress Working Committee's decision not to refer matters of interpretation concerning representative grouping to the Federal Court.

The Congress Party's intention is now to leave the door open for Moslem League participation in the Constituent Assembly. Despite the repeated assertion by the Moslem League leader, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, that he saw no reason for calling on the League Council to reconsider its boycott of the Constituent Assembly, responsible Indians here believe he will consent to participate in an Indian round table conference at which no British representatives would participate.

Indian quarters, including some members of the United Nations delegation at present in London, believe such a conference could result in a considerable narrowing of the existing fission between Congress and the Moslem League, particularly in view of the Congress decision not to refer differences to the Federal Court—a measure to which Mr. Jinnah was most vehemently opposed.—United Press.

BOOK PURGE

Vienna, Dec. 23.

The law for the purge of Nazi literature in Austria was approved unanimously here today by the Allied Control Commission for Austria.

Present at the short meeting was Colonel-General Kurason, Soviet representative, whose absence for about a month had led to reports that his post was being changed. He looked extremely fit on his re-appearance.—Reuter.

Washington, Dec. 23.

The possibility of giving immediate economic assistance to Greece is to be investigated by the United States Government according to a State Department notice here tonight.—Reuter.

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Daylight Train Hold-Up

Berlin, Dec. 23. Armed bandits held up a Berlin suburban train on which British soldiers were reported to be travelling, in broad daylight today, and robbed passengers.

The bandits boarded the train on the elevated railway between two West End stations and went from compartment to compartment taking watches, rings, money and wallets. They then pulled the emergency brake and as the train slid to a standstill, made off into the Tiergarten area.

The American licensed newspaper Abend said the bandits spoke "a foreign language" and wore "foreign uniform."

The paper asked why the British soldiers travelling on this train did not tackle the bandits as "Allied" occupation troops must be ready to use their weapons.

Apparently no passengers made the slightest effort to hinder the bandits, it added, but British soldiers stood against the doors of their compartments to keep them out.—Reuter.

U.S. COMMUNISTS' CAMPAIGN

Washington, Dec. 23.

American Communists have launched a campaign against the administration's universal training programme, based on the charge that United States military preparations since V-J Day have reduced the rest of the world to a state of terror.

They claimed the United States Army and Navy were preparing for battle right away or soon.—United Press.



HOW FAR IS AUSTRALIA?

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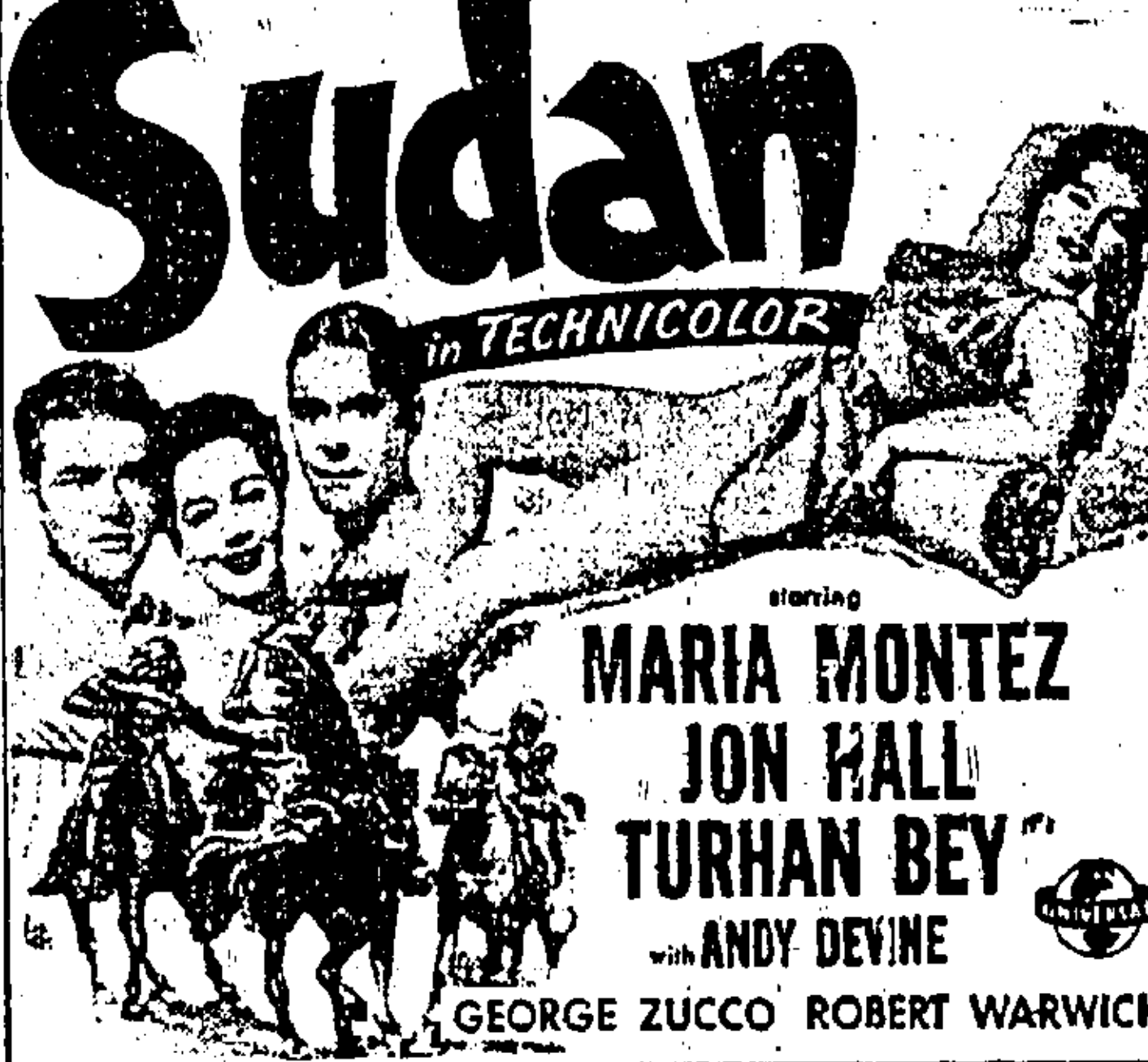
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NEW PLAN FOR MALAYA FEDERATION

MARKETS FOR AUSTRALIA

Sydney, Dec. 23.
Sir Bertram Stevens, the former Premier of New South Wales, who returned yesterday from trade missions in India, Singapore and Burma, said here today: "Political and industrial leaders want co-operation with Australia. If Australia fails to accept the invitation to help the East now, she will probably lose markets for many years to come."—Reu.

The British Government has announced details of a proposed plan for the "federation of Malaya," designed to bring political unity to the loosely associated native states and the British colonies which constitute the present Malayan Union.

The plan reserves complete control of the defence and external affairs of the strategic area, whose quick domination by the Japanese in the early stages of World War II, brought con-

Singapore, Dec. 24

The lengthy "constitutional proposals for Malaya" envisage the creation of a central government under a High Commissioner, the extension of federation citizenship to most residents, the creation of legislative and executive councils, for the federation of nine Malay states and the settlements of Penang and Malacca, and state governments headed by native sultans acting on the advice of the British Resident.

The proposals were prepared by a committee representing the British Government, the Sultans and the united Malay's national organization.

It has already been approved by the Sultans and the British Cabinet and now will be submitted for approval of the Indian, Chinese and other racial groups.

The plan is opposed by the newly formed Pan-Malayan council of joint action, representing 15 Chinese and Indian trade union associations on the ground that it was worked out in secret sessions without prior consultation with the Malayan people.

Singapore—No Change

There is no mention in the proposals of Singapore, which remains a separate crown colony, or of the Governor General's office, which apparently will remain as the chief colonial office for Malaya, Sarawak and British north Borneo.

Federal citizenship would be granted to any Malayan, or any British subject born in Penang or Malacca who has resided there continuously for 15 years, or any person whose father is a federal citizen at the time of the person's birth.

The British Government undertakes to prevent "any grave menace to peace and tranquillity of the federation, of any Malay state or settlement" and to safeguard "the financial stability and credit of the federal government."—Associated Press.

Forgive -- But Don't Forget

Berlin, Dec. 23.
The United Press learned from a reliable source that the War Department has approved the recommendation of high ranking American officers in occupied Germany to "forgive" 1,000,000 "little Nazis" in the American zone.

The number represents about one-third of all Nazis in the American zone, who might have faced charges under the new German-written and German-administered de-Nazification law.

"Forgiveness" represents the first actual relaxation of the tough de-Nazification policy on the part of the Americans, who have so far during the occupation taken stern measures against former Hitler followers than any of the other powers. It was understood the recommendation was made to Washington because the American High Command in Germany realized that formal action against all of the zone's Nazis, including mere followers, would represent a monumental task requiring anything up to eight years.—United Press.

DUTCH ENVOY RECALLED

The Hague, Dec. 24.
P. C. Peltzman, Netherlands special envoy and minister plenipotentiary in Madrid, has been recalled by Queen Wilhelmina, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced.

Recently, the United Nations General Assembly in New York voted the resolution recommending all United Nations members to withdraw their ambassadors and ministers from Spain, as an expression of disapproval of the Franco regime.—Associated Press.

London, Dec. 23.
Pope Pius XII has arranged for funds to be made available for the relief of casualties and those made homeless by the earthquake which rocked southern Japan on Saturday, the Vatican radio said today.—Reuter.

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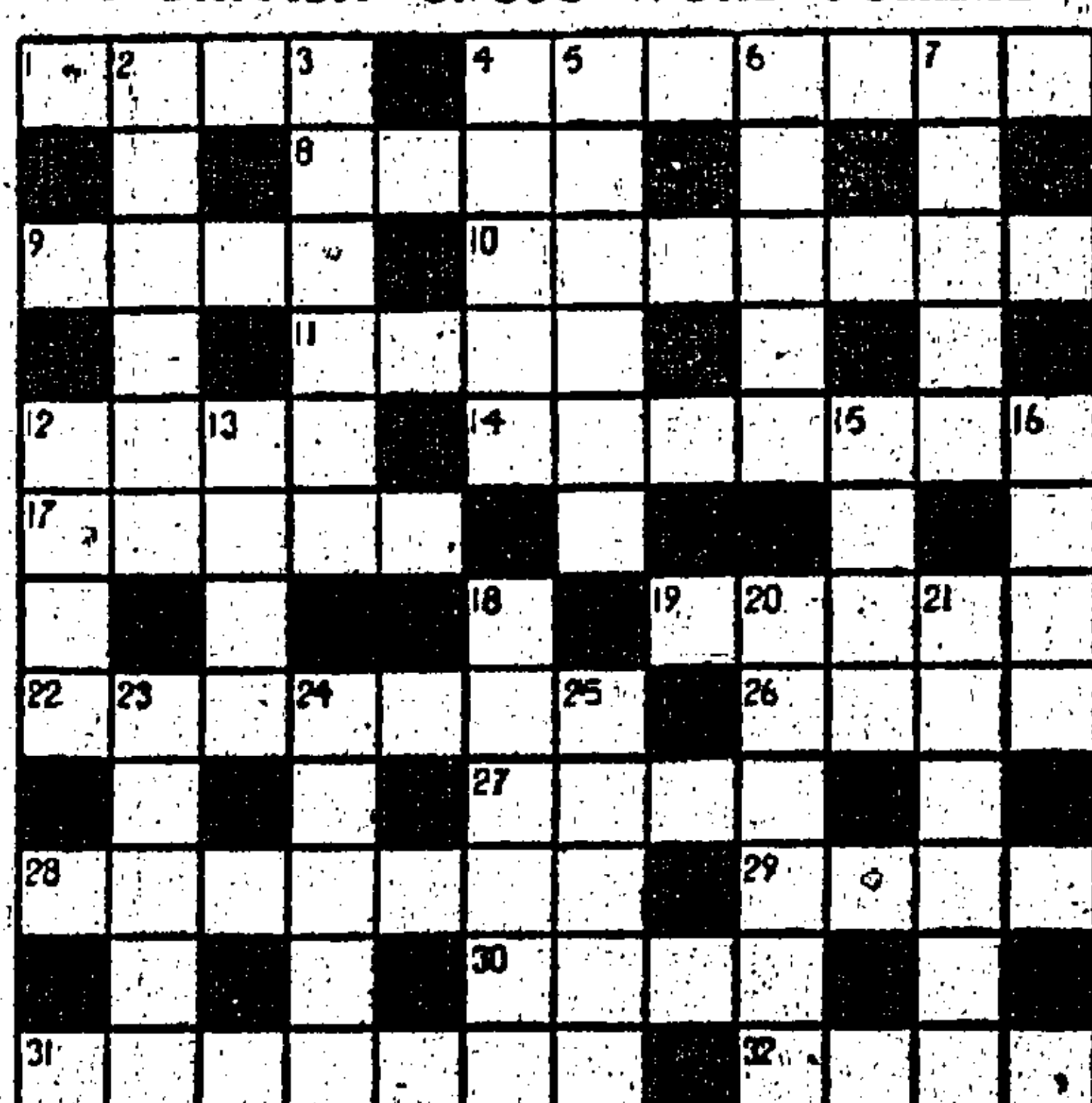
"THE MONSTER AND THE APE"

To-Day — First Chapter

To-Morrow — Final Chapter

Continuing To-morrow "THE TUTTLES OF TAHITI"

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- Golden eagle.
- Distinctive.
- Dial.
- Outdoor game.
- Type of church.
- Rowing appliances.
- Visionary.
- Simpletons.
- Packing case.
- Scorch.
- Controlled.
- Intend.
- Snare.
- Go from the country.
- Impel.
- Direction.
- Boy's name.
- Level.

Clues Down

- Disorderly person.
- Use of energy.
- Despise.
- Individual.
- Quoted.
- Concur.
- Merit.
- Narrow road.
- Observed.
- Game dog.
- Ascribe.
- Throat wash.
- Stage whisper.
- Kind of pin.
- Fore.
- Fear.

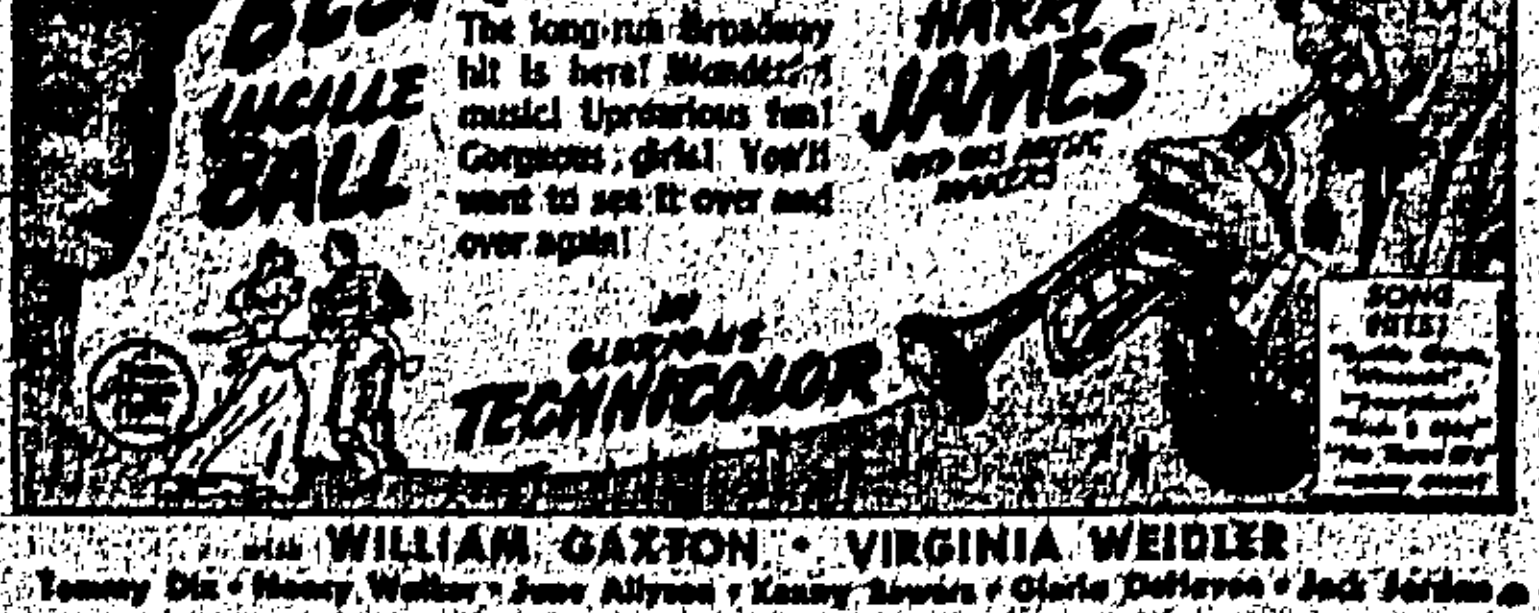
Yesterday's Crossword

ACROSS:—1. Jaguar; 5. Moist; 8. Rater; 9. Mosaic; 10. David; 11. Debt; 12. Onus; 13. Coast; 16. Report; 18. Evades; 20. Essen; 22. Hemp; 23. Strip; 25. Prate; 26. Condor; 27. Arras; 28. Abyss; 29. Needed.

DOWN:—1. Jamboree; 2. Ger-tures; 3. Arid; 4. Reeced; 5. Medico; 6. Orator; 7. Swiss; 14. Attended; 15. Tempered; 16. Ran-ter; 17. Pelican; 19. Vestas; 21. Scrub; 24. Pose.

MAJESTIC

At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20, & 9.20 p.m.



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SS "General Gordon"	January	5
SS "Marine Lynx"	January	13
SS "President Grant" (Direct)	January	20

MANILA

SS "General Gordon"	December	30
SS "Marine Lynx"	January	6

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s/s "FLEETWOOD"	Feb. 9	Feb. 11	ditto

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Salute Or Be Slapped

Further evidence of the ill-treatment of Prisoners of War was given yesterday at the continued hearing of the case in which Colonel Tokunaga and four other POW camp officials are charged with war crimes.

Major D. Lightbody, R.A., Deputy Assistant Registrar of War Graves, produced a document relating to graves of prisoners of war in Argyle Street.

In reply to questions by Major Puddicombe witness read from the document a list of names of prisoners of war who died during the occupation. The names included Pte. V. Branson and L. Cpl. Byrne of the Middlesex, who were killed on Sept. 17, 1942 by shooting of Connelly of the Royal Naval Dockyard police, who was killed by shooting on Sept. 14, 1942, and Privates Stapp and Dunne of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, both of whom were killed by shooting.

Woman Shot

Joseph Tausz, a POW in Shamshui, read extracts from his diary and said that on Feb. 2, 1942 a Chinese woman was shot by a Japanese sentry on the seashore for collecting rice. Tokunaga issued orders to POWs on Feb. 15 to salute camp officials when 20 paces away and until the salute was returned. Those who failed to do so were slapped. He had seen Chinese being beaten by sentries by the use of jiu-jitsu and once Rev. Green was beaten by Inoue. On another occasion three sergeants were late for a parade and were beaten.

Continuing witness recalled further the beating of two prisoners of war for talking to the guards and of 10 American navy men being beaten by Stodda. On Dec. 1, 1943 a working party was chased out of the Kai Tak shelter when an air raid was on and on Dec. 30, 1943 an identification parade was held in connection with the selling of clothing to sentries. Eighteen men were picked out and beaten.

Hearing was adjourned till Friday.

Money Mart

Chinese National Currency continued lifeless yesterday, and closing rates were 52½ cents for futures, and 55½ cents for spot (for CN\$1,000).

Gold did back to \$311.50 a tael at the opening yesterday and continued on its downward course to \$305.50. At the close it rallied to \$311.

Piastres also weakened, opening at \$16.65 and closing at \$15.20.

U.S. dollars at \$4.83, Sterling at \$12.25 and Australian pounds at \$12.35, were all unchanged from the previous day.

Gold Bars Unloaded

Gold bars and United States dollar open market rates swung violently up and down today as a result of reported intervention by the Central Bank of China.

Opening at a new record level of 7,200 and 380,000 Chinese National dollars respectively for U.S. greenbacks and one ounce of gold, the rates quickly soared to 8,000 and 398,000.

At this point the Central Bank of China began unloading gold bars on to the market, causing the rates to decline sharply. By the end of this morning, the Bank was unconformably reported to have sold 30,000 ounces in gold bars.

The rates further slumped in the afternoon to close at 5,700 for U.S. dollars and 362,000 for gold bars.—Reuter.

HIS LAST WORDS

London, Dec. 24. Sixty-year-old H. C. Roberts, Chairman of the Sanford (Sussex) Council, made a speech at the monthly meeting last night. Then he sat down, sank low in his chair, and died. Ambulance men carried the body from the Council Chamber.

Roberts had been speaking on the improvement of Sanford's coastal defences, for which he had long been a crusader.—Reuter.

Noma Trial Begins

(Continued from Page 2)

amine the Japanese organisation. As I intimated earlier, Gen-darmes arrested suspects and carried out preliminary investigations. If a prima facie case was made out, the prisoner was then handed over to the Judicial Department for trial. Noma tells you, "according to law" a person is guilty who admits a charge. So his men were instructed to get confessions. From the Judicial Department, two witnesses, Col. Kogi and Capt. Yamaguchi will tell you that when they received suspects for trial from the Kempeitai a confession was one of the basic documents always handed over with them. So you will see the system, broadly from Noma's viewpoint, would be—get a confession as quickly as possible and get rid of the interrogator. No back leg of the whole wouldn't confess was desirable. Too much in the pending tray is a bad thing in anyone's administration. Some of those who were transferred to Stanley were executed. If their crime was that serious, does anyone think they'll confess without some Kempeitai persuasion? And you are entitled to infer that some persons at least of those executed, were condemned on the evidence of such confessions. According to law a person is guilty who admits the charge—says Noma and you may have to decide that there are guilty people who deny it.

Mass Deportations

"I come now to the third sub-heading under which evidence is offered viz, the Gen-darmes' part in the mass deportation from Hong Kong.

"Soon after the occupation, it was claimed by the Japanese that the food available in the Colony was insufficient for the number of inhabitants. After trying various expedients, it was decided to implement a scheme of deportation of those whom the Kempeitai was pleased to call 'Undesirables'. This would lessen the demand on the Colony's food supply. 'Undesirables' were those not in possession of a ration card enabling them to purchase rice, criminals and vagrants. The Gen-darmes' part in this was in rounding up these people, guarding them and then escorting them to a chosen destination on junks. The process started in 1942-43. If nothing more than that were proven, the prosecution would argue here that mass deportation in these circumstances is strictly illegal. And inasmuch as Accused co-operated in the arrangements to carry out the illegality, he must share some of the blame for the guilt.

"Translations of both those minutes will be read to you and you will see how Sir Robert Kotewall protested against mal-practice in rounding up of people at will, forcing them into waiting vehicles and deporting them on the first available boat. He requested that people should be evacuated back to their native places.

Greatest Outrages

"The Governor replied to these representations. His reply will serve as an interesting sidelight on what was most certainly the greatest single outrage perpetrated on the long suffering Chinese public in the Colony during the Occupation. But of greater moment to the issues here, he actually says he was aware of the malpractice. And he was aware that Gen-darmes had been guilty of corruption in the matter. After the Governor, the Head of the Civil Affairs Department also spoke, mentioning a scheme for releasing persons wrongfully arrested. He said the number released represented 20 to 25 per cent of total arrested—a staggering commentary on the care exercised by the Gen-darmes in their arrests. Even then, he adds, the Gen-darmes committed this 'too lenient'.

"You will see there is no direct reference to Accused here. I suggest to you that if an influential body of Chinese complained to Sir Mark Young about the behaviour of Police in this Colony, and Sir Mark Young had to admit the justice of some of some of their contentions, the Chief of Police would know about it soon enough. So I put it to you that Noma, who he didn't already know how his Gen-darmes were behaving, in this duty, he knew soon enough after August 19, 1945. And what improvement it was effected? None in fact, things got worse.

"Now let us look at the actual executive end of this deportation, what were the experiences of people deported?

Pushed Into Sea

"Those who were arrested were taken first of all to North Point

Pioneer River Skipper Dies In Texas

News has been received of the death, at Fort Worth, Texas, on Oct. 3 of Captain Reginald Dowsett Thomas, 78, a pioneer in the river steamer service between Hong Kong and Canton.

Capt. When they number was sufficient they were piled in junks. The junks were towed away escorted by a launch in which armed Gen-darmes went as guards. Sometimes they were actually in the junks. On arrival at the destination you will hear from one witness of how on one occasion sick and unfit were pushed into the sea. It seems that in the process, some 70 men, women and children lost their lives. On another occasion eight or nine junks were lost in a typhoon whilst en route to Bus Bay. Again some people were landed on Low Chow, an uninhabited island of the Po To group, which is roughly South of Hong Kong and visible from Stanley. There is nothing there to permit survival, and visitors to that island will tell you of the presence of skulls and bones. You are asked to infer that those remains were of these castaways. Another deportee will describe a nightmare trip lasting six days; when the party landed, they were so far gone from lack of food and water that many expired on the beach. This was in the Mira Bay area.

"On arrival they were roughly handled—beggars, children, good citizens, anyone you like—so that they may die even before landing. And on landing we have evidence from two different places of the deaths of hundreds. I suggest most strongly that you must infer some of these people were good citizens whose one crime was that they were in the street at the wrong time.

"An ex-major of the BAAG was representative of United China Relief Fund to the Tai Ping Area. He spent a good deal of time there, from June to December 1943. There were famine conditions prevailing throughout. The conditions were aggravated by the arrival of deportees from Hong Kong during this period, in such quantities and already in such a condition that mass starvation set in. Witness will say that during the period the death rate was between 500 and 700 per month. Gauge from that what a disastrous undertaking this was.

Illegal Scheme

"Clear and unequivocal protests are made from influential bodies in 1943. This will be proven by minutes of their meeting. But you will also be told by witnesses who were in a position to know the conditions of the people that there was no improvement. These people were heads of District Bureaux which organisations operated as forces of local Governmental bodies in charge of such matters as public health and rice distribution. As such, they were constantly in touch with the people.

"There you see the position in 1944—a deportation scheme in operation, which, it is submitted, was illegal in its very essence. And the Gen-darmes co-operated with the knowledge and approval of the Accused. Matters are further aggravated because the scheme gets out of hand and deportees, so far from being undesirable—a strange word in the mouth of a Gen-darme by the way—might be anyone who happens to be in the street. Some of these people are released after arrest, some are unable to avoid the journey. And at one of the disembarkation points, thousands perish from starvation.

"At this stage, it would be well to consider how far a CO is responsible for the illegal actions of his subordinates, since on that devolves Accused's liability or otherwise on the charge. The full limits of this responsibility do not propose to even try to enunciate here. But you will be so approaching the matter cautiously if you ask yourself two questions.

(1) Did Accused order the acts?

(2) Did he acquiesce in them, countenance them, or knowing what was going on, fail to stop them.

And as an inference from (2) if the CO, by his own deliberate or reckless omission, disregards warnings or signs that things aren't as they should be, he cannot plead ignorance because the ignorance, if it does exist, is his own fault.

"There is one thing more to say before calling the first witness. I want to emphasise this one aspect. This case is brought against Noma on actions which, if proven, were clearly illegal. The actions were continuing over a period of years and as widespread as this small Colony will permit. It is submitted, and submitted strongly, that the matter complained of were all of their very nature notorious. The Accused is an experienced soldier, a mature man whose education is not limited merely to his Army experience. You must certainly

The late Capt. Thomas, who spent 40 years in Hong Kong, passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. Kenneth Smullen.

Captain Thomas went to sea in 1893 at the age of 15 on the England-to-Australia wool clipper run. After 12 years in deep-sea sailing he joined the Hong Kong-Canton-Macao Steamboat Company as captain and pioneer in development of steamboat traffic on Chinese rivers. He retired in 1925 after 30 years' service but remained in Hong Kong and became marine superintendent for the Hong Kong Tug & Lighter Company. He later held a similar position with the Hong Kong Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company.

His knowledge of Chinese dialects and his experience with Chinese labour earned him a commission as captain in the British army in World War I. He served in France with the Chinese Labour Corps.

His age prevented duty in World War II but his youngest son, Norman, served with the Canadian forces and his eldest son, Charles Stanley, an RAF pilot, was killed in action. Two sons-in-law were with the U.S. forces.

The Japanese occupation of Hong Kong on Christmas Day 1941 wiped out most of Captain Thomas' holdings in banks and industries there and he came to Fort Worth the next year with his wife to live with Mrs. Smullen.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Edith Thomas; another daughter, Mrs. W. A. Drury Norman; the son, Norman L. Thomas, Vancouver, British Columbia; two sisters in England, and four grandchildren.

Captain Thomas was active in Freemasonry. He was initiated in Hong Kong in 1898 and served as worshipful master of the Star of Southern China Lodge, as district grand senior warden of South China and as third guard principal of the Royal Arch chapter. Other activities included membership for many years on the board of examiners for pilots and in the Volunteer Defence Corps at Hong Kong.

P. C. COLMAN DIES IN SHAI

Shanghai, Dec. 24. Percy Cretton Colman, uncle of film star Ronald Colman, died in Shanghai on Monday during a rehearsal of the play "The Housemaster" at the Shanghai-American School in which he was playing the part of Sir Berkeley Nightingale.

He was aged 77 and is survived by his widow and two children.

Colman was watching a scene when he collapsed and died. He played the part of Nightingale during a performance of the play in an internment camp in Shanghai during the war.—Associated Press.

His actions, therefore, far more carefully than you would a junior officer or NCO. You are entitled to expect from him a far higher standard of skill, care and behaviour than you would from any of his inferiors. It is claimed at least that he knew what was happening and he failed to check the evil. Ask yourself how easy it would have been to take action on any of the matters I've put before you. And what hardship, suffering and death he could have avoided. That he did not do so produced misery and suffering to a degree unparalleled in the history of the Colony.

Skeletons On Island

Captain H. C. Glover, attached to the War Crimes Investigation Team, testified as to a statement made by Colonel Noma. Capt. Glover said that the statement was taken down by him and that before taking it, he cautioned Noma.

Capt. Glover said that he paid a visit to Lo Chau Island and on the beach, five minutes after landing, he found a number of skeletons. There were no inhabitants on the Island and there was no way in which a person could exist if left there.

Cross-examined, Capt. Glover said that it was not correct to say that he had refused to make certain corrections to the statement made by Noma, although requested by the latter to do so. Noma did, however, submit applications for the withdrawal of certain statements made.

Petitions and statements made by Noma were then read out in Court by Capt. Glover, after which hearing was adjourned till 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 27.

YORK CRASHES

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 24. The Argentine FAMA Line York plane, bound for Buenos Aires from London with a British crew, crashed into a mountain-side near here, with the loss, it is feared, of several lives.

High winds and torrential rains have hindered rescue parties hacking their way through the forest.—Reuter.

Hotel Owners Indicted

Atlanta, Georgia, Dec. 24. The operators of the "fire-proof" Wincoff Hotel, where 121 persons died in the fire on Dec. 7, were indicted by a Grand Jury on three counts, charging involuntary manslaughter.

The indictments accused A. F. Geale, Sr., A. F. Geale, Jr., and R. E. O'Connell, lessees of the property, with "wilfully and wantonly" operating a "firetrap." Maximum punishment upon conviction would be 12 months' imprisonment and US\$1,000 fine.—United Press.

Two Die In Hotel Fire

Quebec, Dec. 24. At least two persons were reported killed and five injured when a fire raged through an old lower town hotel today.

The fire, believed to have started when an oil stove was upset during an altercation between two lumberjacks, spread with lightning speed through the three-storey Mount Royal Hotel.

The blaze gutted the structure before the firemen could set up to battle it.—United Press.

Sino-American Air Agreement

Washington, Dec. 28. United States and China have signed an air transport agreement which gives three American airlines—Pan-American Airways, Transcontinental and Western Airlines and Northwest Airlines—the right to serve China, and reciprocal agreements for Chinese airlines to land in the United States.

Pan-American will serve Shanghai and Canton via Honolulu and Tokyo and via Honolulu and Manila. TWA will serve Canton and Shanghai on a route via Europe and the Middle East. Northwest will serve Tientsin and Shanghai on the North Pacific route via Alaska and Tokyo, with the terminus at Manila.

Undesignated Chinese airlines were granted two routes to San Francisco via the Pacific and a third to New York via Europe.—United Press.

Next Spring

New York, Dec. 23. Northwest Airlines today said that as a result of the signing of the Sino-American air agreement, service via Alaska, the Aleutians, Japan and Shanghai to Manila was likely to start next Spring. It said the first proving flight was scheduled to leave on Jan. 2, using a DC-4. Initial service would probably be one flight weekly.

TWA said it expected to commence test flights soon, extending its new India route from Bombay to Hanoi and Canton. It predicted that eventually the route would be extended from Canton to Shanghai, where it would link with the Northwest.

Pan-American plans envisage a trans-Pacific service splitting at Hawaii, from which one route would go to China via Midway and Japan and the other route to Hong Kong via Guam and Manila.—United Press.

China

Yu Kai Yan, Hsu Yung-sang, and Lee Kwok-wai, Lau Chung-sang, Hsu King-shing, and Fung Kwan-lag, Cheuk Shek-kum, Fung King-cheung, Lee Wai-long, Lai Shiu-wing and Tao Chow-ting.

Reserves:—Fuk Yui-wah, Chu Shiu-hang, Tao Kum-hung, and Cheung Kam-hoi.

Portugal

Lopes or V. Marques; Roberto Le and Parilano; T. Castilho, Agrosa and Collaco; Pereira, B. Gozalo (Capt.), D. Carvalho, Gomes and Santos; Reserves:—Castilho, A. Xavier, L. Xavier and Rosa-Pereira.

England

Powell; Timmis and Deaz; Cashman; Burnage (Capt.); Cole; Ford; Stuckland; Jones, Fox and Bowler.

Reserves:—Evans, Johnson, Chambers, Willis, Neale, Stevens, Bickford.

Teams are to report to the dressing room not later than 2.45 p.m.

The following have been selected to play for the Rest of the Colony in their return game against 3 Commando Brigade on Saturday, Dec. 28 at 4 p.m. Ingham (Club), Hutton (Club), Williams (Club), Smithers (Club), Bond, Fowler, Mullen and (Navy), Martin (Navy); Thom-

No Bets On Test Matches

Melbourne, Dec. 24. Betting anywhere in the Melbourne cricket ground is contrary to regulation, said Mr. Ransford, Secretary of the Ground Trustees, when replying to a question whether any action could be taken to prevent betting during the third Test match starting on January 1.

Standing up in the stands to call the odds or commit any other annoyance would not be tolerated, added Mr. Ransford. Cables to London which drew a statement from the MCC were apparently based on the "Sydney Sun" paper story saying bookmakers turned Sheridan stand at Sydney into a betting ring, mounting the seats and calling odds while blocking the view of cricket enthusiasts, he said.

The Marylebone team playing the Federal capital territory team during the two-days at Canberra starting on Friday, will be Hammond, Hutton, Washbrook, Compton, Fishlock, Ikin, Evans, Smith, Voce, Bedser, Langridge, Pollard (12th man).—Reuter.

Soccer Programme

The following is the soccer programme for the week ending December 29, 1946:—

SATURDAY DEC. 28, 1946
CHALLENGE SHIELD COMPETITION
FIRST ROUND REPLAY

St. Joseph's v. C.A.S.C. (Navy ground, 4 p.m.)
Reference:—C.P.O. J. H. Rogers.
Linsmen:—Lui Shiu Ming and L/S. D. Bickford.

FIRST DIVISION
42 R.M. Commando v. R.A.F. (Sookunpo ground, 4 p.m.)
Reference:—Hagan.
Linsmen:—Cpl. H. Filmer and C.S.M. Cook.

Club v. Sing Tao
(Club ground, 4 p.m.)
Reference:—E. K. Barrett.
Linsmen:—P. M. Xavier and E. Lawrence.

SECOND DIVISION
Signals v. 387 Coy. R.A.S.C. (Caroline Hill ground, 2.30 p.m.)
Reference:—J. J. Jorje.
Kia Chee v. Police (St. Joseph's ground, 4 p.m.)
Reference:—L/S. Chambers.

THURSDAY, 28 DEC. 1946
China vs. England.
Caroline Hill ground at 3.30 p.m.
Reference:—Mr. R. M. Omar.
Linsmen:—E. Hagan and Lui Shiu Ming.

REPLAY

The Football Association Cup second round replay matches today resumed:

Peterborough 1 Northampton 1
Lincoln 2 Wrexham 1.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI CLASH

Shanghai, Dec. 24. Four soldiers were killed, four others wounded and two missing in a serious clash between garrison personnel and convalescent soldiers at Soochow, 60 miles west of Shanghai, late on Sunday night.

The convalescents crashed the gate of a theatre, refused to be ejected, and opened fire on the garrison troops. The officers in charge of the convalescents were seized for court martial.—United Press.

THE TEAMS

The following are the teams:—
Scotland

Manuel 46 (Commando), Sinclair and Soular (R.A.F.); Haig (42 Commando); Anderson; Burns (R.A.F.); Beggie (Navy); Humble (45 Commando); Mullen (Club); Ferrier (Police); and Winters (45 Commando).

China

Yu Kai Yan, Hsu Yung-sang, and Lee Kwok-wai, Lau Chung-sang, Hsu King-shing, and Fung Kwan-lag, Cheuk Shek-kum, Fung King-cheung, Lee Wai-long, Lai Shiu-wing and Tao Chow-ting.

Reserves:—Fuk Yui-wah, Chu Shiu-hang, Tao Kum-hung, and Cheung Kam-hoi.

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Interport Soccer

The Shanghai Football Committee has accepted the invitation of the Hong Kong Football Association to send a team to Hong Kong during the Chinese New Year holidays for an Interport game.

At the meeting of the Interport Committee of the Hong Kong Football Association held on Monday a programme of four games was arranged for the visitors.

An interport trial will be held on Club ground on New Year's day at 3.30 p.m.

The following are the teams:—

Probables:—Powell, Lee Kwok-wai and Hsu Yung-sang, Lo Wai-kuen, Coles, and Lau Chung-sang; Chou To-ting, Lai Shui-ting, Lee Wai-long, Fung King-cheung and H. Ying-fun.

Possibles:—Taylor; Tsang; Chung-yun and Tse Kam-hung; Cashman, Burnage and Fung Kwan-shing; Lee Shek-yau, Chau Man-chi, Jones, Haggie, Cheuk Shek-kum.

Reserves:—Evans, Leung Wing-chui, Hsu King-seng, Gosno, Tse Kam-ho, Chui Wing-keung, Dear, Timmis, Chambers, Bickford and Ford.

The following is the programme for the visitors:—
Wednesday, Jan. 22, Interport. Thursday, Jan. 23 v. Combined Chinese. Saturday, Jan. 25 v. United Services. Sunday, Jan. 26 Chinese (Shanghai and Hong Kong) v. Rest of Hong Kong.

BOYS' BOXING

London, Dec. 23. More than 2,000 boys between the ages of 14 and 17 are now preparing for the Amateur Boxing Association's youth championships of Great Britain at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on February 28.

Schoolboys do not qualify, but part-time scholars and youths attending training schools for the Navy, Army and Air Force may enter, providing they belong to clubs affiliated to the Amateur Boxing Association.—Reuter.

RADIO

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25, 1946
ZBW Hong Kong broadcast on a frequency of 845 kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.15 p.m., 5.30 to 7.30 p.m., and 9 to 11 p.m. also on 0.53 megacycles.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.35 p.m.—Carols and Christmas Music.
1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.15 p.m.—Scott-Francis's Symphonies Variations.

1.30 p.m.—Orchestral Favorites.
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
5.30 p.m.—"From the Shows"—Light Opera.
6.00 p.m.—London Relay News.
6.15 p.m.—"We Shing For You"—Margaret Sheridan (Soprano) and "Auld Lang Syne" (Tenor).

7.30 p.m.—Studio: "Bring Your Music"—Classical Requests Programme, arranged by Lynn Fraser.
8.30 p.m.—"Light" from Handel's "The Messiah".
9.00 p.m.—London Relay News.
9.05 p.m.—Christmas Variety Programme.

9.08 p.m.—London Relay: "At Home Again"—A World-wide Exchange of Christmas Scenes and Greetings. Part 1, Christmas in the British Isles. Part 2, Christmas in Europe. Part 3, Christmas in the Empire.

11.00 p.m.—Christmas Broadcast by B.M. The King.
11.15 p.m.—Close Down.

THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 1946

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.35 p.m.—Variety.
1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.15 p.m.—Studio: Two Piano Recital by Betty Brown and Ken Barrett.
1.35 p.m.—Charles Kullman and Light Symphony Orchestra.

2.30 p.m.—Close Down.
6.30 p.m.—Studio: "Children's Hour".
6.35 p.m.—"Service Music Hall".
6.45 p.m.—London Relay News.

7.15 p.m.—Variety.
7.30 p.m.—Commentary from Australia on Today's Play in the Lawn Tennis Contest for the Davis Cup.
7.55 p.m.—Interlude.
8.00 p.m.—Studio: Hal Loring at the Piano.

7.50 p.m.—Mark Webb and His Orchestra.
8.10 p.m.—"By the Swanee River".
8.15 p.m.—Doris Dorey.

8.30 p.m.—London Dance Music.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay News.
9.05 p.m.—Studio: "Gospel Gloria".
9.15 p.m.—Variety.

9.35 p.m.—Variety Request Programme, arranged by Lynn Fraser.
10.15 p.m.—The Stanley Musicale.
10.30 p.m.—Mendelssohn's Concerto in D Minor for Violin and Orchestra.
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 1946

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.35 p.m.—Film Favorites.
1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.15 p.m.—Harold Runney at the Organ.
1.30 p.m.—With Haydn Wood.
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.30 p.m.—"From the Shows"—Musical Comedy.
7.00